The New-York Times.

VOL. IX—NO. [illegible]—WITH A SUPPLEMENT. NEW-YORK, WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 28, 1859. PRICE TWO CENTS.

A MOST ACCEPTABLE PRESENT

FOR

GENTLEMEN

FAMILY

Sewing Machines,

No. 505 Broadway, New-York.
No. 191 Fulton-st., Brooklyn.

New-York
Manufacturing Co.
4 FULL SUPPLY FOR THE WINTER.
Depot of Company,
No. 27 Franklin, New-York.

Hospital Sunday Contributions.
[illegible] $122
[illegible] 50
[illegible] 25
[illegible] 10
[illegible] 5
[illegible] 4
E. A. SCHERMERHORN & CO., No. 452 Broadway, N. Y.
No. 192 Fulton-st., Brooklyn.

The Greatest and Boldest
GRAINING MACHINE COMPANY,
Manufacturers of Infants, Youth and Invalid Machines,
and claim to be the only genuine "Lock stitch" sewers
in the
FIFTY DOLLAR SHUTTLE MACHINE,
With recent valuable improvements.
No. 505 Broadway, New-York.
No. 191 Fulton-st., Brooklyn.

The different styles of
SEWING MACHINES
Exhibited from Wash to Hide etc., and Sewing on Broadway and the Hudson River, part of the
DICKMAN ESTATE,
will be sold at the Merchants' Exchange,
ON THURSDAY, DEC. 29, 1859,
AT 12 o'CLOCK.
By ANTHONY J. BLEECKER, SON & CO.
A large proportion of the purchase money may remain on mortgage for
TEN YEARS.
The first sale, on Wednesday last, attracted the largest company assembled in the Exchange to buy real estate, since the great Corporation sale of 1853, when the lots sold for one-quarter what they are now worth—and there is no doubt but the sale on the 29th inst. of the Dickman Estate will call out a host of their peculiar advantages, afford even larger profits. The Continental Hotel is now Rented for
THURSDAY, DEC. 29, 1859,
When a sale positively will take place and be made without reserve.
For maps and particulars, apply to
A. J. BLEECKER, SON & CO.,
Nos. 7 and 9 Nassau-st.

Golden Festival Hat for Young Men.
GENIN'S FESTIVAL CAPS FOR YOUNG MEN.
GENIN'S FURS, GLOVES, ARM COLLARS, &c.
GENIN'S SLEIGH ROBES.
FANCY FURS FOR HOLIDAY GIFTS.
CHILDREN'S FURS FOR HOLIDAY GIFTS.
All orders promptly attended to at
GENIN'S BAZAAR,
Nos. 513 and 513 Broadway.

Genuine chemistry for New Year's.
AT WILSON'S TAYLOR'S SALOON,
No. 585 Broadway.
Every quality of Ornamental Cakes, Confectionery, French Bonbons, Jerusalem Jellies, &c. Also, Boned Turkeys and Hams, Pickled Oysters and Meats, and all necessary articles for New-Year's tables. Orders for all kinds of Refreshments promptly attended to.

Shirts to Order.
UNION AND CHEAPEST ARTICLE
IN EXISTENCE.
For DRESSING, BEAUTIFYING, CLEANING, CURLING, PRESERVING and RESTORING THE HAIR. Ladies, try it. For sale by all druggists and perfumers.

The Minnesota Secretary.
E. ANTHONY, No. 308 BROADWAY,
Largest assortment, latest novelties, lowest market prices.
Open during the evening until Jan. 1.

"No meal complete without it."—
LEA & PERRINS' WORCESTERSHIRE SAUCE.
JOHN DUNCAN & SONS,
Wholesale Agents.

Holiday Presents.
50.—GENTS WANTED, NO. 411 BROADWAY,
EAGLE SEWING-MACHINE COMPANY. $100
50 SELLS MACHINES AT FROM $50 TO $100.

Spalding's Prepared Glue.
Useful to Every House. Pre-Size Strengthens.
Manufactured by H. C. SPALDING & CO.,
P. O. address Box No. 5,629. No. 56 Platt-st.

Glass Shades! Glass Shades!
GLASS SHADES, of all sizes, for covering clocks, figures, &c., constantly on hand and made to order, at No. 116 William-st., corner of Ann-st.

Webster & Co.'s
IMPROVED FRICTION STITCH SEWING-MACHINES,
Unrivaled by any in the market.
No. 505 BROADWAY.

The Whim!
DRESS HAT
is now ready.
LEARY & CO., Astor House.

Fountain's India Store.
Silks, Cloths, Lawyers' Curiosities, &c.
Also, Indian, just from Prince Pass.
No. 261 Broadway.

Rev. Edward Cornelius to Apply his Medicated Gum Elixir with success, in effecting permanent cures of Horses, at Harper's, No. 2 Vesey-st. Ladies waited upon by a female in private rooms. Trusses of every description for permanent retention of rupture, bathing apparatus, shoulder-braces, suspensory bandages, elastic stockings, knee caps, anklets, &c. All orders promptly attended to by MARSH & CO., No. 2 Vesey-st., Astor House, New-York.

Surgeon Bullenmuller Safes.—ROBERT M. PATRICK, sole manufacturer of the above celebrated Safes and Patent Powder-proof Defiance Locks and Grate-Bars. Also Fire and Burglar Proof Sideboard and Parlor Safes, for silver plate, &c. Depot No. 29 Murray-st., corner of College-place.

Bleecker's Hair Dye, Wigs, and Toupees.—This celebrated establishment is at No. 136 Broadway. Twelve private rooms for the application of his famous Hair Dye; private entrance. BATCHELOR'S Wigs and Toupees have improvements over all; this is the only place where they are manufactured and sold.

Mr. Bleecker's Adjourned Sale of 647 Lots, the Dyckman farm, which has attracted so much attention, will positively take place on THURSDAY, Dec. 29, at the Merchants' Exchange. Maps of same may be had at No. 7 Pine-st.

For the Holidays.—McLAUGHLIN'S Improved Patent Hat, the nicest, easiest, and most elegant to measure in the best manner. Store corner of Greenwich and Murray-sts.

Auction Sales.—Henry H. Leeds & Co.—Old Wines, Brandies, Cigars, etc. Importer's stock in quarter or smaller quantities, without reserve, this day, at 11 o'clock, at No. 21 Nassau-st.

Whitlock Pencil that is now ready.
ALSO LADIES' FANCY FURS, HUDSON BAY SABLE, MINK, STONE MARTIN, FITCH, &c., made up in best style, at WHITE'S, No. 265 BROADWAY.

Just received per Persia, an invoice of London Acme Bonham Coats, for Winter wear.
LEARY & CO.,
Astor House.

TO FEMALES AND LADIES.—The most delicate and blasted diseases by Medical Treatment, has now become a well-known fact, attested by the successful treatment of several thousand cases, in hospital and visiting practice. On recommending to this notice of the organ ligaments and abdominal muscles are vitalized and immediately restored, so that no ordinary effort, as jumping, or running up and down stairs, dancing or horseback exercise, is felt. Nervous prostration, hysteria, and all nervous diseases, speedily yield to the above treatment, as by its harmony with the natural functions. It causes no pain or inconvenience, and the cure is so reliable as scarcely to admit of a possibility of failure. Even sterility yields to its vitalizing effects, unless combined with some incurable malady.

It would be but reasonable to suppose that treatment founded on the principle of life-giving in one set of organs, if judiciously practiced in the cases of other organs, would be but successfully administered. Such the treatment to which Hill has proved itself. Numerous cures have been made of long-term complaints which had lingered without help for years. He treats in the city of spermatorrhœa, seminal prostration, nervousness, and low spirits, with unprecedented success. Married females who have had children, and in consequence become run-down constitutions, and in evening nervous and debilitated, summon to attend to a cure.

Dr. ALFRED HILL, the well-known originator of this system of treatment, and the late Medical Physician of Hill Water Cure at Morristown, N. J., will be found at New-York, at the St. Nicholas Hotel, on Tuesday and Saturday, Dec. 27 and 31, and will receive calls from 9 to 2. Dr. Hill will be happy to answer inquiries, by mail, as to the time he can be consulted at Morristown. Pamphlets are cordially invited to examine. Treatment can be commenced, including history of cases, by mail.

The Water-Cure is open Summer and Winter. The cool and winter months are the most favorable for speedy recovery in many cases.

HEALTH TO ALL NATIONS!—THE NATIONAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION, at its meetings at the Cooper Institute, on TUESDAY, at 7 P. M., and THURSDAY, at 3 and 7 P. M., will explain to the public how to avoid the diseases of the season. Admission free. Ladies especially invited to attend the meeting on Tuesday afternoon. Health-rules, &c., free.

OFFICIAL DRAWINGS, BY TELEGRAPH
OF THE LEGALIZED LOTTERIES,
WOOD, EDDY & CO., Managers,
of the
DELAWARE, GEORGIA, KENTUCKY and MISSOURI
STATE LOTTERIES,
AUTHORIZED BY THE LEGISLATURE.
The undersigned Commissioners, appointed by the Governors of the States of Delaware to superintend the drawing of the Delaware State Lottery, do certify that the following are the numbers drawn this day:
DELAWARE LOTTERIES.
Eleven Class. No. 660. Dec. 17, 1859.
10, 8, 10, 12, 23, 34, 14, 22, 32, 30, 70, 21, 39.
Union No. 668, Dec. 19, 1859.
12, 21, 34, 17, 6, 24, 44, 42, 4, 43, 5, 33.
Without our hands, at Wilmington, Del., Dec. 17, 1859.
GEO. C. GORDON,
Seal. [SEAL.]
JAMES DUNCAN.
Circulars, containing schemes for the month, will be mailed free of charge, by sending to
WOOD, EDDY & CO.,
Wilmington, Del., or Augusta, Ga.

A NEW REVOLVING STEREOSCOPE,
Patented in America by the London Stereoscopic Company, Dec. 20, 1859,
FOR EXHIBITING
ANY NUMBER OF VIEWS,
FROM
FIFTY TO THREE HUNDRED,
Glass or paper.
WALNUT, double lenses, shaded..... $15 00
MAHOGANY, double lenses, shaded..... 18 00
ROSEWOOD, double lenses, shaded..... 20 00
A liberal discount on all goods supplied to the trade.
LONDON STEREOSCOPIC COMPANY,
NO. 594 BROADWAY, (up stairs.)

DR. WISTAR'S BALSAM OF WILD CHERRY.
This approved, appreciated, and well-known remedy is the best one extant for the safe, sure, rapid and permanent cure of Coughs, Colds, Bronchitis, Croup, Whooping-Cough, Asthma, Bleeding at the Lungs, Sore Throat, Hoarseness, and every form of Pulmonary Affection and Consumption. Witness the thousands who, when other remedies failed, found relief and cure in this.
There are worthless counterfeits. Purchase only that prepared by S. W. FOWLE & CO., Boston, whose printed name is on the outer wrapper.
Sold in New-York by Barnes & Park, F. C. Wells & Co., Hegeman & Co., Schieffelin, Brothers & Co., McKesson & Robbins, and by Druggists and Dealers everywhere, in City and country.

WATCHES AND JEWELRY
FOR THE HOLIDAYS.
ROBERT RATT & CO.,
No. 261 BROADWAY,
Opposite the City Hall,
Importers and Manufacturers of
GOLD AND SILVER WATCHES,
by the most celebrated makers of
LONDON, LIVERPOOL AND GENEVA.
Strangers and the public are respectfully invited to inspect their large stock of
DIAMOND AND OTHER FINE JEWELRY,
SILVER AND SILVER-PLATED WARE,
FANCY GOODS, &c.,
AT PRICES VERY LOW.

JELLIES
FOR HOLIDAY TABLES.
PETER COOPER'S
Refined
SHEET AND SHRED ISINGLASS,
A Prime Article, Very Extensively Used for
CALVES-FOOT JELLY,
BLANC MANGE, TABLE AND WINE JELLIES, AND
FOR JELLIFYING PRESERVES.
The Shred, with directions for using, is put up in small packages for FAMILY USE, and is sold by all the principal Grocers and Druggists throughout the United States.
PETER COOPER,
No. 17 Burling-slip, New-York.

A PRESENT FOR YOUR WIFE.
A PRESENT FOR YOUR DAUGHTER.
A PRESENT FOR YOUR SISTER.
A Present sure to Please
any Lady Friend, is one of the
WILCOX AND GIBBS' SEWING
MACHINES,
PRICE $50 TO $75.
DEPOT NO. 505 BROADWAY,
Opposite St. Nicholas Hotel.

WHAT SHALL I BUY FOR A PRESENT?
Is the anxious inquiry at this season of the year.
We beg to suggest a patriotic answer:
AN AMERICAN WATCH,
Which may be found at retail with
A. RUMRILL & CO.,
No. 324 BROADWAY.
And at wholesale of ROBBINS & APPLETON, Agents of the Company, No. 182 Broadway, corner of John-st.

MRS. WINSLOW'S
SOOTHING SYRUP.
MRS. WINSLOW, AN EXPERIENCED NURSE and female physician, has a SOOTHING SYRUP for children teething, which greatly facilitates the process of teething by softening the gums, reducing all inflammation; will allay all pain, and is sure to regulate the bowels. Depend upon it, mothers, it will give rest to yourselves, and relief and health to your infants. Perfectly safe in all cases. Sold everywhere. Price only 25 cents per bottle. Office No. 13 Cedar-st.

IMPORTANT TO DYSPEPTICS.
This most distressing disease, as well as INDIGESTION, HEARTBURN, SOUR STOMACH, LIVER COMPLAINT, ACIDITY, BILIOUSNESS, JAUNDICE, FEVER and AGUE, FEMALE COMPLAINTS, COSTIVENESS, LOSS OF APPETITE, HEADACHE, GENERAL DEBILITY, &c., &c., of however long standing and obstinate or chronic character, can find certain and permanent cure, and that speedily, by the use of that wonderful preparation,
THE ORIENTATED BITTERS.
THE ORIENTATED BITTERS.
Sold by BARNES & PARK, F. C. WELLS & CO., McKESSON & ROBBINS, SCHIEFFELIN, BROS. & CO., New-York; and by dealers everywhere, in City and country.

GOLD WATCHES AT BARGAINS.
The subscriber has received a large invoice of Gold English Patent Lever WATCHES for gentlemen, with orders to sell them for cash at extreme low prices, and he is now selling them at TWENTY-FIVE per cent. less than the usual retail prices.
GEO. C. ALLEN, Importer of Watches and Jewelry,
No. 416 Broadway, one door below Canal-st.
Formerly No. 11 Wall-st.

WHEELER AND WILSON'S
SEWING MACHINE.
"A swift-fingered sister of Love and Charity."
An appropriate holiday present to a Wife, Mother, Daughter, Sister, Pastor or friend.
Office No. 505 Broadway,
New-York.

ANOTHER NEW PICTURE
FOR THE STEREOSCOPE.
STEREOSCOPIC ILLUSION.
"Have you seen it—now you don't."
LONDON STEREOSCOPIC CO.,
No. 594 Broadway.

BEAUTIFUL AMERICAN HAIR. 25
WOMEN.
"I have examined and analyzed the Graefenberg Marshall's Uterine Catholicon. The ingredients are very valuable in restoring health, and their peculiar combination gives it a direct and favorable action upon the uterine organs. A. A. HAYES, M. D.
Chemist for the State of Massachusetts."
Female irregularities, weakness, uterine displacements and all local uterine difficulties, and constitutional treatment of women, are safely cured by THE GRAEFENBERG COMPANY'S UTERINE CATHOLICON. Price $1 50 per bottle. For SALE AT THE OFFICE OF THE GRAEFENBERG COMPANY, No. 36 PARK-ROW, NEW-YORK, AND BY ALL DRUGGISTS.
On the RECEIPT OF $6 Five Bottles sent by Express, AND CHARGES PAID TO END OF EXPRESS ROUTE FROM NEW-YORK.
Address JOSHUA F. BRIDGE, M. D., Secretary and Consulting Physician, Graefenberg Company, No. 36 Park-row, New-York.
Dr. J. F. BRIDGE may be consulted professionally or by letter, at his rooms in the Graefenberg Institution, No 36 Park-row. Office hours 9 to 1 and 2 to 5.

A FRIEND IN NEED—TRY IT.
DR. SWEETS INFALLIBLE LINIMENT.
The great external remedy of the age. Prepared from the prescription of Dr. Sheffield Sweet, of Connecticut, the celebrated horse doctor, whose fame is survived by that of very few men. It is a certain and immediate cure for rheumatism, pain, soreness, weakness, swellings, stiffness, numbness, sprains, bruises, scalds, burns, chilblains, frosted feet, ears, fingers, toes, chapped hands, lips, &c. It is invaluable as an insect destroyer, as all confirmed cases will testify. All sufferers should give it a trial. RICHARDSON & CO., Proprietors, Hartford, Conn. For sale every where.

AMERICAN COSTUME VS. "NOTHING TO WEAR."—Miss HARRIET M. AUSTIN, M. D., will discuss the subject in the Metropolitan Health Institution, 15 Laight-st., near Hudson, Health-rules, &c., free. TUESDAY, at 2 and 7 P. M., on WEDNESDAY of this week. Admission free.

PRINCE IMPERIAL CHAMPAGNE.

From
PERNEUX & CO., EPERNAY, FRANCE.
A wine of rare quality, at a moderate price. Sold at the principal hotels and by all the leading dealers throughout the country.
E. V. HAGGERWOUD, Sole Importer,
Nos. 426, 428 and 430 Broadway, corner Broome-st.

RELIABLE PREPARATIONS.—OUR READERS will notice the advertisement of JOSEPH BURNETT & CO., of Boston, of long established reputation. Their TOOTH-WASH is an excellent preparation for the purpose, and has been highly approved. This, with the HALLISTON, for allaying irritations of the skin, the Complete COCOAINE for the hair, and a bottle of exquisite perfume, are neatly put up in boxes convenient for home use or traveling. Dr. BURNETT'S reputation as a scientific druggist renders his preparations reliable.—N. Y. Advocate and Journal.

FINE GOLD JEWELRY—IMPORTED.—We invite attention to our assortment of Fine Imported Jewelry, comprising virtuosa, enamel, garnet, coral and mourning. All the newest and most desirable patterns selected abroad.
OSBORNE, MORGAN & TOWNSEND,
No. 335 Broadway, corner Spring-st.

CANTRELL'S
WINTER BOOTS FOR CHILDREN.
CANTRELL'S
WINTER BOOTS AND SHOES FOR THE YOUNG.
CANTRELL'S
LADIES' WINTER BOOTS.
CANTRELL'S
MISSES' AND CHILDREN'S SHOES.
CANTRELL'S
THICK SOLED BOOTS.
CANTRELL'S
HOLIDAY SLIPPERS FOR PRESENTS.
CANTRELL'S
GAITERS, Twelve and Fourteen Shillings.
CANTRELL'S
VICTORIA BALMORAL BOOTS.
CANTRELL'S
GENTLEMEN'S PATENT LEATHER BOOTS.
CANTRELL'S
GENTLEMEN'S FRENCH CALFSKIN BOOTS.
CANTRELL'S
GENTLEMEN'S PROMENADE BOOTS.
CANTRELL'S
STORE, NO. 512 BROADWAY.

HOLIDAY PRESENT.
SOMETHING USEFUL, ORNAMENTAL AND OFTEN WANTED.
Always kindly remembered for its Good Offices.
A COMPLETE CASE OF
HUMPHREYS' SPECIFIC HOMŒOPATHIC REMEDIES,
With Manual of Directions for Family use.
It costs but $4 or $5, and will be a source of relief and comfort for years.
F. HUMPHREYS & Co.,
No. 562 Broadway, and by dealers.

STICK TO IT.
As STARR'S CHEMICALLY PREPARED GLUE does in every instance.
16, 24 No. 102 Fulton-st., New-York.
THOMAS JOHNSON, Agent.

HUNGARIAN WINES FOR THE HOLIDAYS.—The subscribers call the attention of their friends and customers to their delicious Wines, unequalled for purity and flavor, from $3 per dozen in quantities to suit purchasers. They will send a dozen bottles of Red or White of these wines, carefully packed, at $3 75, delivered free of charge to any part of the City. Also sample boxes containing 4 bottles Red & 4 Claret, 2 Dessert, and 2 Fine Brandy, at $4.
GROSSINGER & WIGAND,
No. 130 Water-st.

WIDENING OF WORTH-ST.—THE COMMISSIONERS appointed at a meeting of the property owners, in favor of said improvement, will make a report at the office of JOHN SHERWOOD, No. 191 Broadway, THIS DAY, (Wednesday,) at 3 o'clock P. M. Parties interested in and in favor of the widening of Worth-st. are requested to attend.

TOBACCO-USING.—FATHER! MOTHER!—Is your son addicted to this ruinous habit? Be with him at the Health Convention, in Cooper Institute, at 7 P. M., WEDNESDAY, 28th inst., and hear this subject discussed by Mrs. HUTCHINSON, M. D. Admission free.

FROM MEXICO.

The Treaty of Mr. McLane—Analysis of the Document—Reconstruction of the Mexican Cabinet—Effect of the Treaty.

Correspondence of the New-York Times.

VERA CRUZ, Saturday, Dec. 15, 1859.

The United States steamship Saratoga sails to-day for New-Orleans, with H. R. DE LA REINTREE Secretary of Legation, and bearer of the treaty signed yesterday, which will be known as the "McLane and Ocampo Treaty, of Dec. 14, 1859."

This treaty provides:

1. The right of way, in perpetuity, for a railroad or other communication across the Isthmus of Tehuantepec, from ocean to ocean.

2. The right of way, in perpetuity, for a railroad from some point on the Rio Grande across the States of Tamaulipas, Coahuila and New-Leon, Durango and Sinaloa, to the port of Mazatlan on the Pacific.

3. The right of way, in perpetuity, for a railroad from the Territory of Arizona, across the State of Sonora to the port of Guaymas on the Gulf of California.

4. The right to erect warehouses at the termini of all these transit routes, and freely to navigate the waters with which they communicate.

5. The right to transport goods and merchandise, destined for Arizona or California, or thence back to the other parts of the United States, free of duty, by each and all of the routes across the Republic, whatever may be their description or of what country.

6. This article provides that these goods may at any time be entered at the Transit warehouses, for sale and consumption in Mexico, the payment of the duties, or may at any time be withdrawn and shipped to any other country than Mexico free of duty, the warehouse regulations to allow no charges on the goods but those of cartage and storage.

7. This article provides that a large list of goods and merchandise, being the natural or manufactured product of the United States, shall be admitted into Mexico at the various termini of the Transit routes on terms of perfect reciprocity, the Congress of the United States to determine whether they shall be admitted free or at a fixed rate of duty. This list embraces manufactures in cotton and leather of every description.

8. The Treaty grants, moreover, the right to transport the troops, military stores and munitions of war of the United States across the Republic, by the Tehuantepec and Sonora transits, on the same terms as those of Mexico.

9. It concedes to the United States the right, with or without the consent and cooperation of Mexico, to protect, by force of arms if necessary, all these transit routes, their property and rights of way.

10. It guarantees religious freedom to citizens of the United States in Mexico, and the right to worship in churches or private dwellings, according to the dictates of their own conscience.

11. No forced loan, whatever be its nature, shall be levied on citizens of the United States, resident in Mexico, on any pretence whatever. Citizens of the United States, moreover, shall be free to pursue whatever business or profession may seem to them fit, without restraint or restriction whatever.

To the treaty is also attached a special supplementary convention between the United States and Mexico, which concedes:

1. The right to the United States to intervene, by force of arms, if necessary, to protect citizens and property of the United States in Mexico, and to enforce these same treaty stipulations.

2. In compensation for the duties above mentioned, as released on goods passing through the Republic, and for consumption therein, the United States stipulate to pay to Mexico four millions of dollars, two millions of which are to be reserved for the payment of claims against Mexico.

By the preceding synopsis of the most important points conceded, it will be seen that Mr. McLane has been governed by views entirely different from his predecessors. Instead of paying large sums for vast tracts of desert and worthless territory, he has negotiated upon the bases of extending the commerce of the United States, securing a safe transit over the best route between the Atlantic and Pacific, and protecting our citizens in Mexico from the exactions to which they are subjected during the usually distracted state of that country.

The right of intervention to protect the Transit, which is conceded, is the surest guarantee that the necessity for such intervention will never occur. And if "manifest destiny" should make it expedient at any time to annex a further slice of Mexico, (which Heaven forbid,) intercourse with our people will make them better prepared for it. It will be seen by a look at the map, that a line drawn from Matamoras to Mazatlan leaves one-third of Mexico to the north of it.

The reciprocity clause with reference to the natural and manufactured products of the United States and Mexico, places it entirely within the power of Congress to provide for a trade in which we have everything to gain, since most of the products of Mexico which we consume are at present either duty free or at a nominal rate, while our cotton, leathers &c., are at present highly taxed.

No foreign government can realize the same commercial advantages, under the most favored nation clause, as we have obtained them by actual purchase, with respect to the Transit, we avoid all entangling questions with foreign Powers by guaranteeing its security, as between ourselves and Mexico the only parties interested. To all others the Transit is free.

The sum to be paid by the United States, in consideration of these advantages, will establish the Liberal Government, and enable it to maintain its existence. It is evident that the Revolutionists are on their last legs. Many demanding the defeat of Degollado and Doblado and the advance of Comonfort on Oajaca, they were unable to maintain themselves at points so far removed from their base of operations, and have since fallen back to their former positions.

The two millions to be retained by the United States will cover all the just claims of our citizens upon the Mexican Government.

The family of Mr. McLane returns to New-Orleans by the Brooklyn.

The bark John Dean was wrecked on the Arrecife de Alvaro, on the night of the 9th; vessel and cargo probably a total loss; the crew sent to New-Orleans by the Brooklyn—also the crew of the steamer Shield, formerly belonging to the Tehuantepec Company, and wrecked on the late gale on the coast near Alvarado.

[By the steamer.]

MARQUEZ REINFORCED.—THE LIBERALS DEFEAT TROUBLE IN OAXACA.

NEW-ORLEANS, Monday, Dec. 26.

The steamship Tamaulipas has arrived from Vera Cruz, 24th inst. The news is unimportant.

A part of the cargo of gold and specie ordered by the Government had arrived from New-York.

The bark John Dean, from Havre for Vera Cruz, was lost on the 9th in a gale, near Vera Cruz. The crew were saved, but the vessel was a total loss.

Degollado had arrived at Vera Cruz.

Tampico was quiet, and no attack was apprehended.

Maqueo had been imprisoned by Miramon, charged with insubordination.

The Liberals had surprised and captured Teotillan, in Oaxaca.

CONGRESS.

Reception of the President's Message.

The Senate Orders it to be Read and Printed.

THE HOUSE LAYS IT ON THE TABLE.

Another Inconclusive Ballot for Speaker.

The Bids for the New Issue of Treasury Notes.

Special Dispatch to the New-York Times.

WASHINGTON, Tuesday, Dec. 27.

President BUCHANAN feels greatly relieved by getting the Message off of his hands. It was received in each House without the slightest demonstration of any kind. Twelve Senators voted against the reading, as they considered it a violation of the implied understanding that no business should be transacted this week. The Senate listened with more than usual attention to the reading, the members frequently exchanging remarks upon the different portions as the Secretary proceeded. The clauses relative to the reopening of the Slave-trade were received with evident displeasure by party friends, who declared it a violation of good taste to log in a subject ignored by all parties and all sections. Neither wing of the Democratic Party is pleased with the manner in which the President treats the subject of slave property in the Territories. While he says this property should be protected under the Federal Constitution, he does not say that Congress should or could afford that protection. This is the point at issue which the Democracy wish to see settled, and several democrats on all sides, to-day expressed their disappointment at the Message, in that regard. On this all agree, but he fails to say that Congress can protect it. The residue of the Message is spoken of in highly complimentary terms, and will no doubt be indorsed by the whole country. The views of the President relative to the Mexican policy give special satisfaction, and expressions from Congressmen justify the belief that these views will be cheerfully carried out.

Governor SMITH closed his eight-hour speech to-day, to the great delight of the House, when a ballot was taken, exhibiting the Republicans *in statu quo*, Mr. SHERMAN still lacking four votes of an election. There is yet no evidence of an approaching organization.

Mr. HOUSTON offered a resolution declaring some member Speaker for ten days, but limiting the business to be transacted to the passage of a bill for the relief of the mail contractors, the Chair to be again vacant at the expiration of ten days, when the balloting should be again proceeded with. Many of the Republicans objected to this. The outside pressure for relief, they think, may facilitate the regular organization; hence, they declined to receive a resolution which would relieve the House of that pressure. They wish to organize at once, and continue their policy to vote, vote, vote. They will not agree to lessen the chances for organization by special arrangements.

The Mexican Treaty has arrived, and the verbal changes made in the draft carried out by Mr. McLANE meet the approbation of this Government, and it will go the Senate on Tuesday, with a special message. Dispatches say that the Juarez Cabinet are in high spirits, and sanguine of early success if they receive the two millions in cash. American officers will be invited into the Mexican service, and the army will be reorganized. Q.

[FROM THE REPORTER OF THE ASSOCIATED PRESS.]

WASHINGTON, Tuesday, Dec. 27.

The proposals were opened to-day at the Treasury Department for the issue of any portion or the whole of the three millions of dollars, in Treasury notes, in exchange for the gold coin of the United States. They are to be made payable to the order of such bidder or bidders as shall agree to make such exchange, at the lowest rate of interest, not to exceed six per centum per annum, and will carry such a rate of interest from the date of the certificate of deposit. The following bids were made at six per centum:

Warren Institution for Savings, Charlestown, Mass	$50,000
Riggs & Company, of Washington	1,500,000
A. M. Tasker, of New-York	5,000
D. McMurtrie, of Pennsylvania	150,000
Trevor & Colgate, of New-York	500,000
Thompson & Brothers, of New-York	200,000
Alexander Stuart, of New-York	50,000
Reid, Drexel & Co., of New-York	1,000 000
Emigrant Industrial Savings Bank	300,000
R. L. & A. Stuart	300,000
Hoffman & Co	300,000
Marie & Kanz	100,000
The Savings Bank of Baltimore	150,000
Clarkson & Co	32,000
Cuyler's Bank of Palmyra	100,000
Institution for Savings of Merchants' Clerks of New-York	100,000
United States Trust Co., New-York	150,000
New-Haven Bank	20,000
Queen's County Savings Bank, Flushing, New-York	9,000
Henry S. Vail, New-York	900,000
Mariners' Savings Institution, New-York	50,000
Irving Savings Institute, New-York	15,000
Savings Institution, New-York	15,000
Dry Dock Savings Institution, New-York	100,000
East River Savings Institution, New-York	50,000
Orient Mutual Insurance Company, New-York	100,000
Salem Five Cent Savings Bank	100,000
George H. Norman	20,000

The following were the bids at five and three-quarters per centum.

Savings Bank of Baltimore	$25,000
Joseph Lawrence	25,000
Irving Savings Institution	15,000
Gabriel Mead, of New-York	10,000
Dry Dock Savings Institution	50,000

These bidding five and three-quarters per centum get $125,000, and all the others get a pro rata proportion of the remaining portion of the three millions.

Mr. DE REINTREE of the United States Legation in Mexico, arrived to-day with the treaty.

The steamer Alabama, which sailed hence Washington several days ago, has nothing to do with the Paraguay expedition, as was surmised, but is on another diplomatic service, the nature of which cannot be ascertained. She is fully armed.

Senator BIGLER, of Pennsylvania, had stated [illegible] intention to attack that part of the President's Message which assigns to the Judiciary as the department natural to adjust questions growing out of the Slavery difference with the right of it vested in the slave holding Territories, instead of necessitating Congressional action for protection.

SENATE.

WASHINGTON, Tuesday, Dec. 27.

The Message was received from the President.

Mr. IVERSON, of Georgia, (Rep.,) moved that it be taken up and read.

Mr. COLLAMER, of Vermont, (Rep.,) objected, on the ground that the Senate was more than full, and when last together there was a distinct understanding that no business should be done during Christmas Week. The reception of the Message was a mere matter of form; but precisely whether it be heard on the subject-matter of the Message immediately on its being read, if read now, it ought to be read again when the Senate was full.

Mr. DAVIS, of Mississippi, (Dem.,) did not see how listening to reading the Message could be considered an act of the Senate, although an order to print it might be. It was the President's duty to give Congress information on the affairs of the country. The law charges the head's message of a time when no action could be taken on it. But we are bound to hear it, and have no right to enter into any agreement at any time which will deprive the President of his Constitutional prerogative of communicating his views to Congress.

Mr. FESSENDEN, of Maine, (Rep.,) asked whether a motion was required to read it, or whether it would be read as a matter of course.

Mr. DAVIS said a motion had been made for the reading of the Message, but objections having been made, it was for the Senate to decide the question.

Mr. FESSENDEN replied that it would then require the action of the Senate before it could be read; and as the Senate was under an honorable obligation to take no action to-day, it could not be read.

Mr. DAVIS rejoined that this was a very good argument against entering into any such agreement as the Senate made the other day. He objected then on the ground that the President might send a message containing something which might render it necessary for the Senate to send for absentees and rescind the agreement. If the President thinks proper to send a message at any time, it was only right that the Senate should hear it.

Mr. BAYARD, of Delaware, (Rep.,) concurred in the views of Mr. DAVIS.

The Senate then ordered the Message to be read—Ayes 35, Nays 12.

It was accordingly read, the reading occupying an hour and a half.

Mr. BROWN, of Mississippi, (Dem.,) said that at the proper time he desired to make some remarks on it. He would not do so now, not wishing to violate the agreement, and therefore suggested that it be laid on the table for the present.

Mr. CLINGMAN, of North Carolina, (Dem.,) proposed to adjourn the matter till Jan. 3.

Mr. EVANS, of Indiana (Dem.,) said they had better adopt the usual course. He moved that the message and documents be printed, but stated that the motion should lie over until after the holidays. The Senate had no printer yet.

The Senate adopted the suggestion, and then adjourned till Friday next.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The President's Message was received.

Mr. COCKBURN, of New-York, (Dem.,) moved that it be laid on the table until the House was organized.

Mr. CRAIGE, of North Carolina, (Dem.,) moved to amend the motion so that the Message be received and read.

Mr. COCKBURN accepted the amendment.

There was much excitement, and the Republican side called for the Yeas and Nays.

A call of the House was ordered.

Mr. SHERROD, of Ohio, (Rep.,) argued that there was no precedent for reading it when the House was not organized.

Mr. CRAIGE withdrew his amendment.

Mr. COCKBURN's original motion was agreed to.

Mr. WILLIAM SMITH, of Va., (Dem.) resumed his remarks on the Slavery question, referring to its history for years past, and causing long extracts to be read, in support of his position. He said the North must suppress the scattering of incendiary publications, must put down all treasonable publications, must mind their own business; and the South must arm to provide against treason, must pursue a defensive policy and prepare for the wrath to come.

Mr. HOUSTON, of Alabama, (Dem.,) offered a resolution, proposing a temporary Speaker for ten days, nothing to be done in the meantime except the passage of a bill to meet the deficiencies in the liabilities of the Post-office Department, when the office shall become vacant, and the House proceed to the election of a Speaker.

The Republican side objected to the introduction of the resolution.

Mr. HOUSTON wanted to know if the objections came from the Republicans, who pretend great sympathy for the Government mail contractors, but are unwilling to adopt a measure with a view to their relief.

Mr. WASHBURN, of Maine, (Rep.,) said they would accept the resolution if JOHN SHERMAN's name were inserted in the blank. Mr. WASHBURN wished it known that the Republicans want to elect a Speaker for the whole term.

The House was called, preliminary to a vote for Speaker.

The whole number of votes cast was 228, and 115 were necessary to a choice.

For Mr. Sherman, of Ohio, (Rep.)	101
Mr. Scott, of California, (Dem.)	17
Mr. Houston, of Alabama, (Dem.)	13
Mr. Gilmer, of North Carolina, (Amer.)	14
Mr. Bocock, of Virginia, (Dem.)	14
Mr. Maclay, of New-York, (Dem.)	13
Scattering	25

The House then adjourned.

From Arizona and Sonora.

RETURN OF CAPT. EWELL FROM SONORA—BITTER FEELING AGAINST AMERICANS.

Correspondence of the St. Louis Republican.

TUCSON, Sunday, Dec. 2, 1859.

Capt. EWELL has returned from Sonora. His mission, as I stated in my last, has been successful. He was received with coolness, but met with courteous treatment, and secured the object for which he was sent. On his return, however, while at Hermosillo, one of his animals was taken from him by the authorities under some frivolous pretence, which caused a detention. He immediately dispatched a courier to Capt. PEARCE, commanding the American sloop-of-war *St. Marys*, in the port of Guaymas, who forthwith proceeded, with the promptitude and energy characteristic of the man, to notify the Governor that a bearer of dispatches from the United States must be treated with respect. PESQUEIRA was told that if he did not, within a certain time, dispatch an order to the authorities of Hermosillo to permit Capt. EWELL to proceed without molestation, the guns of the *St. Mary's* would be brought to bear upon the town, and Guaymas demolished. The Governor, taken by surprise, was so long in making up his mind, that ere the order was given, but half an hour remained of the allotted time. Meanwhile, Capt. PEARCE and his marines were not idle. The ship was put in readiness for the engagement, if necessary, and all the preparations were completed, when the Captain received notice that the order had been given to respect the American bearer of dispatches. One of our citizens to-day received a letter from the Pinos of Magdalena, in which allusion was made to this subject. The writer declared that the Government did not countenance the molestation Capt. EWELL had received, and that the event was a source of regret to the leading citizens.

Private letters from our countrymen now in Sonora represent the feeling against Americans as more bitter than ever, and the writers beseech their friends to be cautious what they write in reply, lest it would involve them in trouble. This looks very like the Government was intercepting the correspondence of those suspected of being ill-disposed toward the Government *de facto*. At all events, it is certain that permission for Capt. EWELL

PUBLIC MEETINGS.

HEALTH CONVENTION—ALL INTERESTED in the improvement of the public health are invited to attend a meeting at the Cooper Institute, on THURSDAY EVENING, Dec. 29, at 7½ o'clock, to consider the propriety of organizing a Health Convention, to be composed of delegates from the various Sanitary Associations and Boards of Health in the State, to meet in this city in January next. Addresses will be delivered by Dr. STEPHEN SMITH, Dr. E. DARLINGTON, Dr. E. D. HARRIS, Dr. J. C. HUTCHINSON, Dr. J. M. CARNOCHAN, Dr. J. R. WOODWARD, Dr. J. H. DOUGLAS, Dr. J. C. PETERS, Dr. J. W. FRANCIS, Dr. J. C. HUNTER, Dr. J. C. HUBBARD

The Sun-Down Times, Wednesday, December 24, 1862.

The Sun-Down Times.

NEW-YORK, WEDNESDAY, DEC. 24, 1862.

THIS NEW-YORK TIMES.

NEWS OF THIS DAY.

The session of the Freedmen was yesterday devoted to the consideration of the Census. It was laid on the table until

The Census Bureau is now engaged in taking the census of Delaware, which is to be completed by the 1st of July next. The population of this State in 1860 was only 112,216; and 11,000 will be a large estimate for the present year.

The Secretary of War reports that while the mortality of the Army is 16,166, the number of deaths from wounds received in battle is only 1,406; and 11,000 of these have been cured and returned to the ranks. Nearly 200 permanent factories have been established over the country, and 198 temporary ones, which have already been in operation for a year. Over 2,000,000 pounds of Saltpetre are now in store. Millions of cartridges have been manufactured, and consequently it has been unnecessary to call upon the Ordnance Bureau for supplies. Arrangements have been made for the speedy delivery of 1,000,000 pounds of Powder, and 1,000,000 pounds of Lead. Contracts have been entered into for the delivery of 1,000,000 pounds of Sulphur. Over 1,000,000 pounds of Saltpetre have been received, and 1,000,000 pounds of Powder. Over 1,000,000 pounds of Lead have been received, and

THE SECRET CITY AND THE SUN.

NEW-YORK AS IT IS.—RED BUNTING IN
the sun.

THE RED ROVERS DAUGHTER.

THE SCENES IN ELYSIUM.

DRY GOODS.

A CARD TO LADIES.

BULFIN'S RETIREMENT FROM RETAIL TRADE

HIS ENTIRE STOCK

OF

VALUABLE CLOAKS AND FURS

all to be sold off

WITHIN THE NEXT THIRTY DAYS,

TOTALLY REGARDLESS OF COST!

In consequence of

RETIREMENT FROM THE RETAIL BUSINESS.

The subscriber tenders his thanks to the Ladies of New-York, as a the public generally, for the very liberal patronage he has received for the last ten years, and respectfully announces them that, having made arrangements to form a new firm for the purpose of conducting an exclusively wholesale trade,

HIS WELL-KNOWN ESTABLISHMENT,

NO. 651 BROADWAY,

will positively close for retail business on or about

THE 30TH OF JANUARY, 1860,

until which time he will offer to the public the whole of his valuable stock of

NEW AND ELEGANT

CLOAKS AND FURS,

at a reduction of from 20 to 25 per cent. from regular prices.

As the entire stock must positively be sold within the period quoted, it is simply deemed necessary to state that to grant an opportunity for purchasing really fine goods at such low prices has seldom before occurred, as the reductions in price will, in every article, be real and not imaginary—which fact will be quite apparent on inspection.

No. 651 BROADWAY.

19th December, 1859.

GEORGE BULFIN.

HOLIDAY PRESENTS!

ARNOLD, CONSTABLE & CO.

Will open an additional lot of

MUSLIN DELAINES, GAROONS,

PARAMATTAS, WOOL PLAIDS,

STUFF GOODS, &c. &c.,

SUITABLE FOR HOLIDAY PRESENTS,

On Monday, Dec. 26.

The fine convenience of customers, these goods are cut by in DRESS PATTERNS, and sold at a separate counter, Canal, corner of Mercer-st.

ARNOLD, CONSTABLE & CO.

WILL OPEN ON MONDAY, DEC. 26,

the balance of their Fall importation of

LACE GOODS,

At low prices, consisting of

POINT D'ALENCON,

POINT A L'AIGUILLE,

BRUSSELS POINT,

MECHLIN and HONITON,

In Capes, Collars, Sets, Barbes, Coiffures, &c., &c.

This will be a good opportunity for persons wishing to make

CHRISTMAS PRESENTS.

Canal, corner of Mercer-st.

NO. 539 BROADWAY.

TUCKER is resolved to tempt and please the million

BY SELLING OUT!!

BY SELLING OUT!!

UNDER COST!!

UNDER COST!!

All the pretty toilet trifles of the season.

FLOWERS, FEATHERS,

GRAND BRIDAL FAVORITES,

SOIREE COIFFURES, $1 THE SET.

J. T. respectfully reminds his patrons, that he will shortly occupy store No. 769 Broadway, two doors above 9th-st.

WITH AN ENTIRE NEW STOCK OF GOODS,

FOR SPRING TRADE.

361 BROADWAY. 539

TUCKER

Is showing out a large stock of

SOIREE COIFFURES,

at $1 00 the set.

HIS BRIDAL SETS,

on paradise, needs no comment.

J. T. respectfully reminds his patrons, that for

HOLIDAYS,

his surroundings are of a very pleasing character.

Two more cases on point of arrival.

LACE CURTAINS FROM AUCTION.

SELLING AT LESS THAN

COST OF IMPORTATION.

291 BELTY, BROS. & LUM, 291

Broadway, New-York.

CURTAINS FOR THE HOLIDAYS.

SOLOMON & HART,

No. 349 Broadway,

In order to close out the balance of their

FALL IMPORTATIONS OF CURTAIN AND UPHOLSTERY GOODS,

Are now offering to the retail trade:

Lace and Muslin Curtains, per set	$1 75 to $20 00
French Brocatel, per set	70 00 to 85 00
German Brocatel, per set	40 00 to 50 00
Rich and Leather	30 00 to 35 00
Satin Delaine	15 00 to 25 00
Tapestry and Cloth	35 00 to 45 00
English Damask	10 00 to 15 00

Including Cornices and Trimmings complete.

Their stock of

CURTAIN MATERIALS AND FURNITURE COVERINGS

has been selected by one of the firm from the best European markets, and comprises the richest and most extensive assortment of these goods to be found in this City. They invite the inspection of the retail trade.

WINDOW SHADES FOR THE HOLIDAYS.

GOLD AND PAINTED WINDOW SHADES,

OF OUR OWN MANUFACTURE,

Of the handsomest designs and best materials, put up to windows from $2 to $10 per pair.

SOLOMON & HART,

No. 349 Broadway.

HOLIDAY PRESENTS.

A. T. STEWART & CO. WILL OPEN MONDAY, Dec. 26,

200 Dresses English Prints, Fast Colors,

$1 PER DRESS.

2,000 Dresses New Delaines French Patterns,

$2 PER DRESS.

300 Pieces Plaid and Bayadere English Challies,

50 cents per yard.

400 Pieces all wool Plaids, extra quality and width, in every variety of colors and designs,

$2, 2d, and 3d. per yard.

Also,

200 Pieces 6-4 Paris quality French Merinoes,

at 50 cents per yard.

200 pieces Plaid and Striped Silks, very heavy,

at $2, $2 50 per yard.

With a vast variety of other Dress Goods equally cheap

ELEGANT HOLIDAY PRESENTS.

Satin Cassia Hair SWITCHES and BOANDS,

Brussels Point Lace SHAWLS, MANTILLAS,

SCARFS, SETS, COLLARS, BRIDAL TROUSSEAUX,

&c. &c.

Extra Rich Embroidered Linen Cambric HANDKERCHIEFS trimmed with Point Lace, &c.

Plaisance SILK ROBES, entirely new.

Do. Tarletan and Tulle do. for Evening.

Cases Pompadour SILKS, the first received,

A. T. STEWART & CO.

HOLIDAY PRESENTS—SPECIAL SALE.

No. 341 Broadway, until the 31st inst.

English and American De Laines	12½ cents.
English and American Calicoes	10 cents.
Scotch Ginghams	12½ cents.
Fell De Chevres	25 cents.
Printed Silks, 21 cents worth	37½ cents.
Cotton Cloths, 12 yards wide	50 cents.
Black and White Silks, handsome	75 cents.
Poplins and Valenciae, reduced	35 per cent.
Black Block Silks	

Handkerchiefs, Veils, &c., equally cheap. 200 pieces Handkerchiefs, 50 cents, previously sold at $1.

W. JACKSON, Importer of Mourning Goods,

No. 341 Broadway, between Spring and Prince-sts.

NEW CARPETS

AT REDUCED PRICES.

Upwards of $100,000 in Carpets, at reduced prices, offered for sale in the retail department for cash, and at uniform prices.

Velvet Medallion Carpets, new patterns, $1 15 per yard.

Velvet Carpets, $1 25 to $1 60 per yard.

Tapestry Brussels Carpets, 22½c. to $1 per yard.

Brussels Carpets, (not Tapestry,) $1 12½ to $1 40 per yard.

Three-ply Carpets, $1 to $1 15 per yard.

Superfine Ingrain Carpets, all wool, 62c. to 75c. per yard.

Extra Fine and Fine Ingrain Carpets, all wool, 87c. per yard.

Extra Fine and Fine Ingrain Carpets, not all wool, 75c. per yard.

Tufted and Fine Venetian Carpets, wool and hemp, 62½c. to 75c. per yard.

Rag, Hemp and Cotton Carpets, 37½c. to 50c. per yard.

Floor Oil Cloths, Bordered Oil Cloths, Rag, Hemp, Cocoa, Oil and Canton Matting.

No. 375 Canal-st., and No. 31 Howard.

291 BELTY, BROS. & LUM, 291

BROADWAY, NEW-YORK.

291 WINDOW SHADES. 291

291 LACE CURTAINS. 291

291 BROCATELLE CURTAINS. 291

291 SATIN DE LAINE CURTAINS. 291

291 TAPESTRY CURTAINS. 291

291 SELLING AT REDUCED PRICES. 291

HOLIDAY GIFTS. HOLIDAY GIFTS.

PARIS EMBROIDERED "GARIBALDI" COLLARS, and COLLARS and CUFFS to match, POINT, HONITON, MALTESE, and VALENCIENNES SETS, COLLARS and HANDKERCHIEFS.

BLACK THREAD LACE, COIFFURES and BARBES.

MEDALLION INSERTION and VALENCIENNES EDGINGS & SETS, with HANDKERCHIEFS to match.

All very nearly and appropriate for

HOLIDAY GIFTS.

BAILEY, FARRINGTON & LESLIE, No. 623 Broadway.

BRUSSELS LACES AND PARIS EMBROIDERIES,

Just received, per Vanderbilt.

Will be opened on TUESDAY, 27th inst.

Point Sets,	Lace Flounces,
Point Capes,	Lace Veils,
Point Handkerchiefs,	Lace Coiffures.
Point Barbes,	

All of which will be sold at a small advance.

MILLER & GRANT, No. 703 Broadway.

GREAT BARGAINS IN EMBROIDERIES

A. T. STEWART & CO.

1,000 embroidered collars, 25 cents each.

500 embroidered collars, 37½ cents each.

500 embroidered collars, 50 cents each.

Embroidered sets, at $1 50, and upwards.

DRY GOODS.

RICH SILKS,

FOR HOLIDAY PRESENTS,

AT G. M. BODINE'S,

No. 481 Broadway.

THIS WEEK, THIS WEEK,

2,000 PIECES RICH SILKS,

Reduced from $1 50

to 75 cents per yard.

Also,

1,000 PIECES EXTRA QUALITY,

Only $1 per yard,

Reduced from $1 75.

Also,

YARD-WIDE RICH SILKS,

$2 and $2 25 per yard,

Reduced from $3.

Observe the name and number,

G. M. BODINE,

No. 481 Broadway.

EMBROIDERED HANDKERCHIEFS,

FOR HOLIDAY PRESENTS,

AT G. M. BODINE'S,

NO. 481 BROADWAY.

1,000 dozen

Fine Hemmed Handkerchiefs,

At $2 25 per dozen,

Worth $4.

Also,

1,000 dozen

Superfine Hemmed Handkerchiefs,

At $3 per dozen,

Worth $6.

G. M. BODINE,

NO. 481 BROADWAY.

RICH DRESS GOODS

FOR HOLIDAY PRESENTS,

AT G. M. BODINE'S.

2,000 Dresses of English Print,

At 10 cents per yard.

Also,

900 PIECES PARIS PRINTED DE LAINES IN NEW DESIGNS.

1,000 PIECES MAYADERE POPLINS,

At 25 cents per yard.

G. M. BODINE,

NO. 481 BROADWAY.

481 BROADWAY,

G. M. BODINE

WILL OFFER, THIS WEEK,

1,000 FRENCH WORKED COLLARS,

AT FIFTY CENTS,

VALUE $1.

BEEKMAN & COMPANY,

No. 473 BROADWAY,

WILL OPEN THIS MORNING,

TWO CASES

REAL FRENCH MERINO,

Only 75 cents per yard,

A Dress of which would be

A DESIRABLE HOLIDAY PRESENT.

SPLENDID ASSORTMENT

OF

STRIPED BROCHE SQUARE SHAWLS,

Also, new designs of

BROCHE LONG SHAWLS,

Just received by

BEEKMAN & COMPANY,

No. 473 Broadway.

CLOAKS AND SHAWLS

AT VERY REDUCED RATES,

FOR HOLIDAY PRESENTS.

ALL WOOL BEAVER CLOAKS FOR $5.

SUPER-BLACK BEAVER " " $7.

Also, FULL ASSORTMENT AT HIGHER PRICES.

ALL WOOL MAGIC SHAWL, REDUCED to $3.

At BEEKMAN & COMPANY'S,

No. 473 Broadway.

BEEKMAN & COMPANY, NO. 473 BROADWAY,

WILL OPEN THIS MORNING,

A case of Gents' Colored Bordered Handkerchiefs, price $3 per dozen, worth $4 50.

An invoice do., $4 25, worth $5 50.

A case of ladies' hem-stitched Handkerchiefs, $2 25 worth $3 50.

STILL FURTHER REDUCTION IN EMBROIDERIES,

AT BEEKMAN & CO.'S, NO. 473 BROADWAY,

Consisting in part of Collars, Sets, Habits, Sleeves, &c.

Suitable for Holiday Presents.

Just opened, rich Medallion Lace Sets.

301. FOR HOLIDAY PRESENTS. 301.

RICH

DRESS SILKS,

AND OTHER RICH DRESS GOODS.

CHAS. HEARD & CO., NO. 301 GRAND-ST.,

ARE NOW OFFERING

RICH SILKS IN DRESS PATTERNS,

From $8 to $15.

RICH SILK ROBES, two flounces,

From $20 to $25.

RICH SILK ROBES, three flounces,

At $18 50.

RICH FRENCH MERINOS,

At 75c. 87 per yard

RICH MUSLIN DE LAINES (all wool)

At 44 cents per yard.

RICH MUSLIN DE LAINE, clints colors,

At 12c. per yard.

CHAS. HEARD & CO.,

No. 301 Grand-st.

310 CANAL-STREET, 310

OPPOSITE MERCER-STREET.

LADIES' SKATING COATS.

LADIES' SKATING COATS,

LADIES' SKATING COATS.

STYLISH, WARM AND CHEAP.

J. J. BENSON, No. 310 Canal-st.

OPERA, OPERA, OPERA,

AND BALL, BALL, BALL,

CLOAKS, CLOAKS, CLOAKS,

AT

J. J. BENSON'S, No. 310 Canal-st.,

opposite Mercer st.

USEFUL, ELEGANT, AND VALUABLE

HOLIDAY PRESENTS,

AT

GENIN'S BAZAAR,

Nos. 507 AND 513 BROADWAY,

ST. NICHOLAS HOTEL.

LACES and EMBROIDERIES,

LADIES' and CHILDREN'S BONNETS,

LADIES' HEAD DRESSES.

LADIES' FURS,

SETS OF HUDSON BAY SABLE,

SETS OF ERMINE,

CHILDREN'S FURS,

GENTS' FUR COLLARS,

GENTS' FUR GLOVES,

SLEIGH ROBES.

LADIES' MORNING ROBES,

SETS OF LADIES' UNDERLINEN,

EMBROIDERED SKIRTS,

INFANTS' CLOAKS and HOODS,

INFANTS' OUTFITS COMPLETE.

LADIES' and CHILDREN'S WINTER HOSIERY,

BOYS' CLOTHING,

BOYS' FANCY CAPS,

FULL SUITS FOR SMALL BOYS.

LADIES' TOILET SLIPPERS,

BOYS' PATENT LEATHER BOOTS,

BOYS' LEGGINS.

GENTS' HATS and CAPS.

BOYS' and GENTS' FURNISHING GOODS.

GENTS' ROBES DE CHAMBRE.

GENIN'S BAZAAR,

Nos. 507 and 513 BROADWAY.

AT NO. 429 BROADWAY.

A. WILLIAMS & CO., LATE PETER ROBERTS,

Will sell for

HOLIDAY PRESENTS,

$100,000 worth of

Rich Laces and Paris Embroideries,

at such prices as must command an

Immediate sale.

Real Point Lace Collars,

Real Point Lace Sets, from $13 and upwards.

Valenciennes Lace Sets, from $4 and upwards.

Assertion Lace Sets, from $5 and upwards.

Point Lace Sets, from $6 and upwards.

Point Lace Handkerchiefs, worth $7,

American Lace Handkerchiefs, 50 cents upwards.

1,000 Paris Embroidered handkerchiefs (entirely new style.)

Paris Embroidered Collars and Sets (half the usual prices.)

Barred Lace Collars, $1, varnished worth $3.

Together with a choice assortment of Thread and French Lace Veils, Coiffures, Barbes, Capes, &c., &c.

We defy competition.

387 M. H. LICHTENSTEIN 387

Having abandoned the idea of removal, has just purchased a

VERY LARGE STOCK

OF

RICH RIBBONS AND DRESS-TRIMMINGS,

Which will be sold at

GREAT BARGAINS

DURING THE HOLIDAYS.

Ladies desirous of purchasing

RICH RIBBONS AND DRESS-TRIMMINGS,

AT GREATLY REDUCED PRICES,

Cannot do better than select from the

MAGNIFICENT ASSORTMENT

Which he submits to their taste and appreciation.

387 M. H. LICHTENSTEIN, No. 387 Broadway. 387

JAMES A. HEARN

Has a superb stock of

CLOAKS, SACQUES,

And the new PELISSES.

The best quality and most fashionable materials were used, and the styles suited to the present taste.

Ladies can be fitted for the different styles in an efficient manner.

Also,

A GENERAL ASSORTMENT OF

DRY GOODS

FOR THE

HOLIDAYS.

No. 776 BROADWAY, above 9th-st.

FURS! FURS! FURS!

A GREAT REDUCTION.

A GENERAL CLEARING OUT,

In order to make room for

SPRING GOODS.

I am now determined to undersell

ANY OTHER ESTABLISHMENT.

I have now marked

DOWN MY ENTIRE STOCK

25 and 30 per cent. less than cost. The ladies' attention is respectfully solicited before purchasing elsewhere.

WM. BANTA,

No. 367 Canal-st., corner of Wooster.

PARIS NOVELTIES.

FLOUNCED SILK ROBES,

POMPADOUR BROCHE SILKS,

PLAITED MAREGHERITE,

The first imported and intended for Holiday Presents.

A. T. STEWART & CO.

MUSICAL.

A LIBERAL HOLIDAY PRESENT.

STODART PIANO-FORTES.

STODART & MORRIS,

MANUFACTURERS OF

GRAND SQUARE AND PICCOLO

PIANOS.

WAREROOMS, NO. 501 BROADWAY, NEW-YORK,

One door below St. Nicholas Hotel.

The Pianos of the above manufacture have stood the test of time, in all climates in the civilized world, as the fundamentals of over fifteen thousand families who have them in use fully prove.

CHICKERING & SONS,

MANUFACTURERS OF

GRAND, SQUARE AND UPRIGHT PIANOS,

Warerooms No. 652 Broadway.

C. & SONS have been awarded 30 prize medals for the superiority of their manufacture for the past 35 years.

ALSO FOR SALE,

MASON & HAMLIN'S SUPERIOR

MELODEONS AND HARMONIUMS

For parlors, churches, vestries and lodges.

All Pianos sold and rented.

PIANOS TO RENT.

WONDERFUL IMPROVEMENT IN GRAND PIANOS.

STEINWAY & SONS invite artists and the public to call and examine their newly-invented OVERSTRUNG GRAND PIANO, which, for power and quality of tone, elasticity of touch, and many other points claims by all who have examined it, among whom are the best musical judges of the country, such as S. GOLDBECK, ED. HAGEN, (Pf. of the Mystical Revelry,) G. O. HILL, W. A. KING, W. MASON, R. G. THOM, H. A. WOLLENHAUPT, A. H. WOOD, O. SAAR, and many others. STEINWAY & SONS,

Manufacturers, Nos. 82 and 84 Walker-st., New-York.

A LARGE ASSORTMENT OF

PIANOS AND MELODEONS

TO RENT OR FOR SALE

AT VERY LOW PRICES

During the Holidays.

Bellet & Cumston's Parlor Grand and Square Pianos, known for the past thirty years as among the best in the country. Improved New-York Pianos. C. D. & H. W. Smith's American Organs and Melodeons of every style.

A. M. KANOUSE, No. 425 Broadway.

JOHN R. DUNHAM,

ESTABLISHED IN 1834,

Manufacturer of

GRAND AND SQUARE PIANO-FORTES,

Manufactory and Warerooms,

Nos. 9 to 15 East 12th-st.,

near Broadway, New-York.

Purchasers may rely upon the instruments made by me are warranted for five years, and the prices moderate.

THE DRIGGS PATENT PIANO-FORTE,

OR THE VIOLIN PIANO,

"The best Piano existing."

Recommended by Thalberg, Gottschalk, Fry, Dora Isaacs, and others.

Manufactured by the DRIGGS PIANO COMPANY, Warerooms at the Music-store of WM. HALL & SON, No. 543 Broadway, one block above the St. Nicholas.

THE MUSICAL PROFESSION,

AND THE MUSICAL PUBLIC,

Are invited to call and try the beautiful-toned

PIANOS OF HAINES BROTHERS,

At No. 226 Broadway.

PIANOS TO LET, with rent allowed on purchase.

BIBLE-HOUSE PIANO WAREROOMS.

Improved new scale 7-octaves, at $200, $225 and $250 T. H. CHAMBERS, Bible House, Astor-place.

PIANO-FORTE!—A SUPERB 7¼-OCTAVE, double round corners, elegantly carved case and legs, round, rich and powerful tone, full iron frame and overstring bass—ONE ONLY PAIR MADE TO ORDER—will be sold low for cash or approved paper. Also new and second-hand Pianos and Melodeons unusually low.

J. W. NEWSON, late J. P. Wake & Co.,

No. 348 Broome-st., two doors west of Bowery.

PIANOS AT UNUSUALLY LOW PRICES FOR THE HOLIDAYS.—Fine-toned 7-octaves in elegant rosewood cases, at $185, $200, $225, $250, $300, &c. Good SECOND-HAND PIANOS at $40, $60 $100, $138. One "Chickering" at $125. T. H. CHAMBERS, Piano Manufacturer, Bible House, corner of 8th-st. and 4th-av.

LIGHTE & BRADBURYS, MANUFACTURERS OF GRAND AND SQUARE PIANO-FORTES—Constructed with all the improvements conducive to superiority of tone, touch and durability, and to any required style of furniture. An extensive assortment always on sale at their Warerooms and Office, No. 429 Broome-st.; also at their Depot, No. 12 Cortlandt-st.

HAZLETON BROS., PIANO-FORTE MANUFACTURERS No. 59 Princess-st., near Bowery. A large assortment of Square and Grand Pianos, at the lowest prices. Warranted to give satisfaction; guaranteed for five years.

RAVEN, BACON & CO.—(SUCCESSORS TO C. Bacon & Co.)—Manufacture Pianos of superior quality, with recent improvements. Warerooms, with large assortment of instruments may be found, exclusively of our own manufacture, warranted in every respect.

ALBERT WEBER, PIANO-FORTE MANUFACTURER, No. 2 Bond-st., near Broadway. Also, Agent for Chas. Jarvis' Patent Organ Piano-Forte. A splendid assortment of HOLIDAY PIANOS, warranted for three years in every respect, very low for cash. Second-hand Pianos taken in exchange.

PIANOS AT GREAT BARGAINS.—TWO elegant 7-octave rosewood pianos, iron frame, and all modern improvements, good as new, for $175 and $185; one 6¾, in fine order, at $80. COUENHOVEN'S Music Store No. 656 Broadway, near 14th-st.

PIANO-FORTE.—A FIRST-RATE 7¼-OCTAVE pearl-keyed piano will be sold very low for cash, and a satisfactory guarantee given.

S. M. AMBLER, No. 91 Walker-st.

SINGER WANTED—FOR SUNDAY EVENings; a person of pleasant voice, familiar with ordinary church music, and with sufficient self-confidence to lead simple congregational singing. Address, with terms, B. C. S., Box No. 104 *Times* Office.

FOR THE HOLIDAYS.

CONFECTIONERY AND CAKE.

JOHN WHITE, NO. 15 CATHARINE-STREET.

CAKE FOR THE HOLIDAYS.

We offer to public patronage, during the present Holiday season, a variety of Cake and Confectionery, which for extent of assortment, quality of material and style of workmanship, cannot be surpassed by any.

Iced Cakes ornamented in the neatest manner; Pyramids, Table Ornaments, Motioes, Fancy Basket Cake, &c., &c., &c.

Those who favor us with a call will find an assortment from which they can select everything desirable for the most exquisite New-Year Table.

Orders packed and delivered in City and country with promptness.

ARTISTIC PRESENTS FOR THE HOLIDAYS.

A CARD.

The subscriber politely calls the attention of the public to his large and beautiful collection of

FRAMED ENGRAVINGS, PAINTINGS AND PHOTOGRAPHS of the MARBLES in PARIS, PARTOUTS, WATER and OIL-COLOR BOXES, DRAWING INSTRUMENTS, DRAWING BOOKS, &c., forming the most recherche presents for the coming holidays. W. SCHAUS, No. 626 Broadway.

GOODS FOR THE HOLIDAYS.

CALHOUN & ROBBINS, Nos. 26 and 28 Vesey-st., up stairs, have just received a large assortment of late French Dress Purses, Portmonnaies, Fancy Boxes, Head pins, Head-nets, Coiffures, and other goods, suitable for the Holiday trade, which they offer at very low prices, for cash, to the Trade only.

FLOWERS.

BASKETS AND BOUQUETS of the choicest flowers made to order, at WM. WILSON'S, No. 42 West 14th-st. W. W. has received first prizes for arranging the above.

HOLIDAY PRESENTS AT ROGERS'S BAZAAR.—The greatest variety of cheap and useful articles, to suit everybody; also, hair nets and fancy pins; best French Kid, 50 cents; Alexandres, in all colors; zephyr worsted, only 15 cents. No. 363 Broadway, near 19th-st. N. B.—East side.

HOLIDAY PRESENTS.—STEREOSCOPES and stereoscopic views, microscopes, drawing instruments, gold, silver and steel spectacles, opera glasses, magnetic machines, &c., &c., at low prices, at HUNTER'S, No. 109 William-st., near Beekman.

FURS.

FURS! FURS! FURS!

By Royal Permission,

THE HUDSON BAY FUR COMPANY,

No. 64 BROADWAY,

will sell their entire stock of Ladies' and Children's Manufactured

FURS AT RETAIL,

AT TWENTY-FIVE PER CENT. BELOW COST,

In consequence of losing their charter by the 1st proximo

MARK J. KING, Director.

No. 64 BROADWAY.

FURS! FURS! FURS!

Genuine mink victorine, muff and cuffs at $11.

Genuine mink half-cape, muff and cuffs at $16.

AT THE HUDSON'S BAY FUR CO.'S

WAREHOUSE, NO. 64 BROADWAY.

Genuine Hudson's Bay sable cape, muff and cuffs at $40.

French mink cape, muff and cuffs at $5 50

French sable cape, muff and cuffs at $5 50.

And all other kind of furs at 20 per cent. less than at any hat or dry goods store in the City. At the Hudson's Bay Co.'s Warehouse, No. 64 Broadway.

MARK J. KING, Director.

FURS! FURS!! FURS!!!

HUSTED & SIEDE, No. 28 Maiden-lane,

Offer their rich and elegant assortment of LADIES' FURS, consisting of HUDSON'S BAY SABLE, ROYAL ERMINE, MINK, STONE MARTEN, FITCH MARTEN, &c. &c.,

made up in the latest style, which they offer at the lowest prices.

F. BOOS, IMPORTER AND MANUFACTURER of every description of European and American FURS, invites the attention of his customers and the public to his extensive and elegant assortment, which he will sell at very reasonable prices, No. 44 Maiden-lane.

LADIES' FANCY FURS.—THE SUBSCRIBER Lenders his stock of fancy furs very low, in no case exceeding wholesale prices as regards. S. GOCH, practical furrier, No. 49 Broadway, UP STAIRS.

SEVERAL SUPERB DARK SABLE CLOAKS and capes, warranted pure skins, at half price, at GAGE'S Fur House, No. 5 Broadway, up stairs.

MME. DEMOREST'S SKIRTS.—PATENT Applied for; important and almost indispensable improvement in LADIES' SKIRTS, made without clasping, sewing, weaving or glueing; no cutting of the tapes, rippling or slipping on the springs, and cannot get out of order. Both cheaper than the cheapest, and better than the best. Call and examine Mme. DEMOREST'S NEW-YORK SKIRT EMPORIUM, No. 375 Broadway, No. 289 Canal-st., No. 256 Bowery, No. 344 Grand-st., and No. 119 8th-av.

GREAT REDUCTION

IN PRICES.

TO HOOP-SKIRT MANUFACTURERS.—We are offering for sale the best quality steel-wire, rolled, tempered and coiled, at the following prices: No. 15, 36c. per pound; No. 14, 32c.; No. 13, 28c.

UNION SKIRT CO., No. Dey-st.

BROOKLYN PLYMOUTH CHURCH.—REV. DR. HENRY WARD BEECHER, Pastor.—All the pews in this church will be offered for sale to the highest bidder, for one year, on TUESDAY EVENING, Jan. 3, commencing at 7½ o'clock. *No* postponement on account of the weather.

AUCTION SALES.

LARGE SALE OF ELEGANT FANCY FURS.

THE HOLIDAYS.

E. & P. H. SCHENCK will sell at auction, on THIS DAY, Dec. 28, at 10½ A. M., at their salesroom, No. 23 Nassau-st., a very large assortment of MOST FASHIONABLE FURS, to be sold without reserve, consisting in part of the latest styles for the BEST RETAIL TRADE, such as

RUSSIAN SABLE,	HUDSON'S BAY SABLE,
ROYAL ERMINE,	MINK MARTEN,
STONE MARTEN,	FITCH MARTEN,
CLOAKS,	

CAPES, HALF CAPES,

VICTORINES, MUFFS AND CUFFS,

Together with a great variety of the more ordinary Furs for Children, Misses and Ladies.

Also

FANCY ROBES,

Being altogether the most desirable opportunity of purchasing seasonable, desirable and useful

PRESENTS FOR THE HOLIDAYS

We have ever had the pleasure of offering at public sale. The whole will be positively sold without any reserve whatever.

A. J. BLEECKER, Auctioneer,

THE ADJOURNED SALE OF 547 LOTS,

Extending from 213th-st. to 216th-st., and fronting on Broadway and the Harlem River, part of the Byckman estate, will be held at the Merchants' Exchange

On THURSDAY, Dec. 29, 1859,

At 12 o'clock,

by

A. J. BLEECKER, SON & CO.

A large proportion of the purchase-money may remain on mortgage for

SIX YEARS.

N. B.—In consequence of the unfavorable weather before the day previously selected for the sale, and in order to afford more time to view this beautifully located property, the sale has been adjourned to and fixed for

THURSDAY, Dec. 29, 1859,

when it

WILL POSITIVELY TAKE PLACE,

AND BE MADE

WITHOUT RESERVE.

For maps and particulars, apply at the Auctioneer's office, No. 7 Pine-st.

EDWARD SCHENCK, Auctioneer.

SUPERB SALE OF PARIS FANCY GOODS.

E. & P. H. SCHENCK will sell at auction on THURSDAY, 29th inst., at 10½ A. M., at their salesroom, No. 23 Nassau-st., a superb assortment of

FINE BRONZES,

SUPERB PARIAN WARE,

FRENCH CHINA DINNER SETS,

ELEGANT CHINA VASES,

BRONZED ORMOLU AND MARBLE CLOCKS,

CUT AND BOHEMIAN GLASS WARE,

SILVER PLATED WARE,

And a large variety of elegant Paris Fancy Goods, to be sold without reserve.

DANIEL A. MASKELL, Auctioneer.

PEREMPTORY SALE OF FANCY FURS.

BUTLER, SHULTS & MATHEWS will sell at auction THIS DAY, (Wednesday,) at 10½ o'clock, at their salesroom, No. 11 Cedar-st., a large assortment of

LADIES', GENTS AND CHILDREN'S FURS,

comprising the best and finest goods offered this season, viz.: Hudson Bay sable, real mink, real fitch, stone marten, &c.; in sets, capes, victorines, muffs, cuffs, &c.

Also, gentlemen's furs in great variety, together with a splendid assortment of

SLEIGH, CARRIAGE AND LAP ROBES.

The whole having been manufactured this season expressly for the best class of City retail trade. Catalogues now ready.

PHILIP R. WILKINS, Auctioneer.

ASSIGNEE'S SALE OF HATS, CAPS, FURS, &c.

PHILIP R. WILKINS will sell at auction, on WEDNESDAY, Dec. 28, at 11 o'clock, at No. 370 Greenwich-st., by order of A. ROGERS, Esq., Assignee, the entire stock contained in said store, consisting of hats, caps, furs, trunks, &c.; also the counters and fixtures.

HENRY H. LEEDS, Auctioneer,

Salesroom No. 23 Nassau-st.

FINE OLD WINES, CIGARS, BRANDIES, &c.—HENRY H. LEEDS & CO. will sell at auction on WEDNESDAY, Dec. 28, at 11 o'clock, at the salesroom No. 23 Nassau-st.

CLOSING SALE OF OLD WINES, BRANDIES, CIGARS, &c.—The entire balance of the stock of an importing house will be offered, and positively sold without reserve as above. The stock is well worthy of attention, and has been largely duplicated since our last sale. The owners now desire us to close off the entire stock peremptorily, viz.: Cossens' golden sherry, aranzara do., victoria and comet brown do., amontillado virgin, (C. & B.,) Duff, Gordon & Vino di Jores, Sandeman, Foster & Co.'s port, imperial cabinet and Mumm's champagne, silkey, mousseux &c., claret, 1848, pesanill brandy, 1805, the balance only; old "Monopole" brandy, pale and dark yacht club, do. jockey club, pale and dark, genuine Hennessey London dock brandy, *P. H. Goddard's do., old Jamaica and Antigua rum,* Schiedam gin, London gin, Central Society of Vineyard Proprietors' brandy-casks, green turtle soup in 2-pound cans, hermetically sealed.

Also, the balance of fine Havana cigars which have given good satisfaction to buyers at our previous sales. Having received many duplicate orders for the same, we shall now close out the remainder, consisting of *genuine mullatta, londres do., union, America, millar,* comunes, maria, galante medianoes, el paes, londres, la germania londres, regalia, and many other favorite brands. These goods are warranted genuine imported Havanas, and mostly in tenth boxes, and are positively fine goods.

This is our last sale this season, and is a very good opportunity for parties desiring standard goods for private use, at a moderate cost. Positively no other goods admitted.

HENRY H. LEEDS, Auctioneer—Salesroom 23 Nassau-st.

HENRY H. LEEDS & CO. WILL SELL at auction on THURSDAY, Dec. 29, at 10½ o'clock, at the salesroom No. 23 Nassau-st., magnificent Diamonds and other jewelry, watches, &c. Consignees direct, and to be sold without reserve, being one of the largest and finest assortments ever offered at auction in this City, and particularly adapted for Holiday Presents, consisting of elegant diamond work, coral, garnet, carbuncle, turquoise, Florentine and Roman mosaic, lavas, cameos, enamels and other precious stones in bracelets, necklaces, brooches, ear-rings, studs, buttons, &c.; in fact every variety, all of the most modern, desirable and latest designs and costly descriptions. Also an elegant assortment of all gold work in various forms, as chatelains, chains, &c.

Also a splendid assortment of diamonds, inlaid and enameled watches for ladies, of the finest description, just received from the best European makers; all of which will be sold without reserve, offering an unusual opportunity to purchasers, as every article is warranted as described in catalogues. Ready for exhibition on the morning of sale.

J. W. PORTER, Auctioneer.

WILL SELL AT AUCTION, THIS DAY, Dec. 28, at 10½ o'clock, all the household furniture in the three-story residence No. 216 East 14th-st., containing a very fine assortment of parlor, dining-room, library, bedroom and nursery furniture, of the latest styles and most exquisite carvings, all made to order for the owner's use, and will be sold without any reserve, as the house is now to let. It consists of superb carved rosewood parlor furniture, in suite, of various styles, covered in French satin and moquet; an excellent rosewood piano-forte, stool and cover; elegant carved, heavy plate glass doors and backs, most expensively carved; rosewood centre, side and sofa tables; corner stands, superb rosewood secretary bookcase, large pier glass, 6 elegant lace and brocatel curtains, rich China vases, clocks, splendid Brussels carpets, together with a large assortment of French china and common crockery, glassware, cutlery, silver ware, mahogany and other sofas, rockers, lounges, extension dining-tables, beds and bedding, hair mattresses, ingrain carpets, rosewood and mahogany bedroom furniture, en suite, basement and kitchen utensils, with which the sale will commence. Every article must be sold.

HENRY H. LEEDS, Auctioneer,

Salesroom No. 23 Nassau-st.

HENRY H. LEEDS & CO. WILL SELL at auction, on WEDNESDAY, Dec. 28, at 10½ o'clock, at the spacious salesroom, No. 630 Broadway, corner Spring-st.:

Beautiful fancy and fancy goods, suitable for the Holidays, consisting of carved statuary; "The Saviour," by Timerani; "The Teaching Mother," by Baratta; "Esculapius," "Angel of Prayer," "The Shepherdess," "Fisherman's Daughter," together with about thirty other beautiful subjects.

Plated ware, tea sets, 16to-8-14to sets, Bohemian glass ware, Canton and Japan ware, decorated ware, vases, work-boxes, backgammon boards, real bronzed figures and figures, vases five feet high, urns, taxzas, Roman Bardiglio, vases, &c.

The above goods are now on exhibition and will be sold at very reasonable prices before and after the sale, at private sale.

M. DOUGHTY, Auctioneer.

AUCTION NOTICE.—M. DOUGHTY WILL sell THIS DAY, at 10½ o'clock, at his salesroom, No. 79 Nassau-st., a large assortment of first-class jewelry, watches, chains, finger and ear rings, bracelets, breeches, shirt studs and sleeve buttons, all of which are warranted as represented on catalogue.

Also,

At 1 o'clock, a general assortment of new and second-hand household furniture, carpets, parlor suites, extension tables, bedroom furniture, beds, bedding, &c.

CHAMBERS & FAIRCHILD, Auctioneers.

SUPERB SALE OF CHAMPAGNE WINE.—CHAMBERS & FAIRCHILD will sell THIS DAY, (Wednesday,) at 12 o'clock, at salesroom, No. 113 Nassau-st., 100 baskets Champagne wine, (Pic-nic,) Roederer Eugenie brand; each basket is said to contain eight bottles (pints) wine, four glasses, and one champagne knife; also, 100 baskets Champagne wine, (Pic-nic,) each basket said to contain four quart bottles; also, 200 baskets (one dozen each) of various brands of superior wine, all in good order.

JOHN KELLY, Sheriff.

HENRY H. LEEDS, Auctioneer—Salesroom, 23 Nassau-st.

ELEGANT OIL PAINTINGS.—HENRY H. LEEDS & CO. will sell at auction, on THURSDAY, Dec. 29, at 11 o'clock, in the gallery over the salesroom, No. 23 Nassau-st., large and valuable collection of oil-paintings, of the English, French, Flemish and

The New-York Times, Published: December 18, 1859
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The Press.

Wednesday, December 14, 1859.

Mr. Buchanan's Message.

The Message of President BUCHANAN, which we publish this morning, is a document of unusual length, and will require a careful perusal to do it justice. It is, however, a plain, straightforward statement of the condition of the country, and of the views of the Executive upon the various questions which are now agitating the public mind. Mr. BUCHANAN has evidently given the subject of his Message much thought, and has spared no pains to make it a clear and comprehensive exposition of the state of affairs. He has not attempted to be brilliant, or to indulge in any flights of fancy, but has confined himself to the discussion of practical questions, and to the recommendation of practical measures. The Message is, therefore, a business paper, and will be so regarded by the country.

The first subject to which the President directs the attention of Congress is the condition of our foreign relations. He says that they are friendly with all the Powers of the world, and that the prospect of a continuance of peace is encouraging. He then proceeds to discuss the Spanish claims, the Mexican question, the Central American question, the Paraguay question, the Japan question, and the Chinese question, in the order in which we have named them. In regard to Spain, he says that the claims of our citizens for spoliations committed upon their property by the Spanish authorities in Cuba, Porto Rico, and the Philippine Islands, have been presented to the Spanish Government, and that the Minister of Spain at Washington has been instructed to bring the matter to the attention of his Government. He says that the claims are of a character which will not admit of delay, and that he hopes that they will be promptly settled. In regard to Mexico, he says that the Government of Juarez has been recognized by the United States, and that our Minister has been instructed to urge upon it the settlement of the claims of our citizens for spoliations committed upon their property by the Mexican authorities. He

CITY INTELLIGENCE.

ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS.—The friends of Governor Clark, who is to be inaugurated on the 1st of January, are making extensive preparations for the occasion. A full dress ball will be given at the Academy of Music, and a number of private parties will be given during the week. The Governor-elect arrived in this City yesterday morning, and will remain here until after the inauguration. He was received at the Hoffman House by Mr. H. Pierrepont, A. Hamilton, and other gentlemen.

ARREST OF FIVE MEN FOR BURGLARY.—Officers Hays, Hogan, Carpenter, and Detective Kane, on the evening of the 19th inst., arrested five men, named Thomas Hall, Thomas Hall, jr., Thomas Hall, 3d, Thomas Hall, 4th, and Thomas Hall, 5th, on the charge of breaking into the store of Mr. Thomas Hall, No. 413 Canal-street, on the night of the 18th inst., and stealing therefrom a large quantity of boots and shoes. The prisoners were taken before Justice Osborn, at the Tombs Police Court, yesterday morning, and committed for trial.

ALLEGED ATTEMPT TO BURN A STORE.—Officer Hays, of the Fifth Police Precinct, arrested, last evening, Peter Hall, on the charge of attempting to set fire to the store No. 413 Canal-street, occupied by Thomas Hall. It appears that the prisoner, who is a brother of the owner of the store, was seen to enter the store, and, on being followed, was found in the act of applying a lighted match to a pile of boots and shoes. He was taken before Justice Osborn, at the Tombs Police Court, yesterday morning, and committed for trial.

ARREST OF A SUPPOSED BURGLAR.—Officer Hays, of the Fifth Police Precinct, arrested, last evening, Peter Hall, on the charge of attempting to set fire to the store No. 413 Canal-street, occupied by Thomas Hall. It appears that the prisoner, who is a brother of the owner of the store, was seen to enter the store, and, on being followed, was found in the act of applying a lighted match to a pile of boots and shoes. He was taken before Justice Osborn, at the Tombs Police Court, yesterday morning, and committed for trial.

CITY GOVERNMENT.

BOARD OF ALDERMEN.

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD HELD LAST EVENING.

ATTENDANCE FAIR.

ALL THE MEMBERS OF THE BOARD PRESENT.

Petitions Presented, Reports Received, and Resolutions Adopted.

At the meeting of the Board of Aldermen last evening, there was a fair attendance of members, and the business transacted was of a routine character.

A petition was presented from the Corporation of the City of New-York, praying for the passage of a law authorizing the Comptroller to issue stock to the amount of $1,500,000 for the purpose of paying off the floating debt of the City.

Petitions were presented from the Commissioners of Charities and Correction, praying for the passage of laws authorizing the Commissioners to purchase a certain piece of property in the Eighth Ward, and for the passage of a law authorizing the Commissioners to erect a building on Blackwell's Island.

A petition was presented from the Commissioners of the Alms-House, praying for the passage of a law authorizing the Commissioners to purchase a certain piece of property in the Eighth Ward.

A petition was presented from the Commissioners of the Department of Public Parks

Supplement to The New-York Times.

NEW-YORK, WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 28, 1859.

THE EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENTS.

THE TREASURY.

Report on the State of the Finances.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, Dec. 5, 1859.

SIR: In compliance with the act of Congress entitled "An act supplementary to an act to establish the Treasury Department," approved May 15, 1820, I have the honor to submit the following report:

On the 1st day of July, 1858, being the commencement of the fiscal year 1859, there was in the balance in the Treasury was.....$6,398,316 39
The receipts into the Treasury during the fiscal year were as follows:

For the quarter ending Sept. 30, 1858:
From customs.....$13,497,433 52
From public lands.....431,171 84
From miscellaneous sources..359,347 34
From treasury notes.....5,200,000 00
From loans authorized by act.....
.....$19,487,952 70—$25,886,269 46
For the quarter ending Dec. 31, 1858:
From customs.....$9,464,533 52
From public lands.....402,120 97
From miscellaneous sources..359,399 34
From treasury notes.....
.....$10,226,053 83—20,091,819 81
For the quarter ending March 31, 1859:
From customs.....$10,703,284 10
From public lands.....641,511 58
From miscellaneous sources..595,310 85
From treasury notes.....140,000 00
From loans authorized by act.....
.....$12,079,105 53—23,181,489 19
Making aggregate means, therefore, for the service of fiscal year ending June 30, 1859.....$53,966,727 11

The expenditures during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1859, were as follows:

For the quarter ending Sept. 30, 1858.....$11,722,158 61
For the quarter ending Dec. 31, 1858.....17,974,779 66
For the quarter ending March 31, 1859.....20,215,188 35
For the quarter ending June 30, 1859.....
.....$49,761,911 67

The expenditures, applied to the various branches of the public service as follows:

Civil, foreign intercourse, and miscellaneous.....$20,626,059 65
Service of Interior Department, (Indians and pensions).....4,753,873 60
Service of War Department.....26,343,824 35
Service of Navy Department.....12,112,240 91
Public debt.....17,925,294 46
Total.....$81,761,911 67

As exhibited in detail in statement No. 1.

The receipts and expenditures during the fiscal year, with the aggregate means during the year, together remained in the Treasury on July 1, 1859, of.....$4,336,272 54

From the 1st July to the 30th September, 1859, being the first quarter of the current fiscal year 1860, the receipts into the Treasury were as follows:

From customs.....$15,547,670 62
From public lands.....470,244 68
From miscellaneous sources.....379,060 61
From treasury notes.....5,621,300 00
From loans authorized by act.....
.....$20,000 00—20,618,275 91

For the quarter ending Dec. 31, 1859, the receipts into the Treasury were as follows:

From customs.....$40,000,000 00
From public lands.....2,000,000 00
From miscellaneous sources.....1,500,000 00
From treasury notes.....5,200,000 00
From loans authorized by act.....
.....1,170,000 00—49,670,000 00

All the receipts of expenditures and estimated for the current fiscal year, ending June 30, 1860.....73,304,341 39

The expenditures for the first quarter of the current fiscal year 1860, that ending Sept. 30, 1859, were:

For civil, foreign intercourse and miscellaneous.....$4,716,136 69
For services of Interior Department, (Indians and Pensions).....1,726,176 12
For service of War Department.....8,473,949 10
For service of Navy Department.....3,281,851 09
For Public Debt.....6,004,363 76
Total.....24,207,476 76

The expenditures from appropriations heretofore made by law, during the three remaining quarters of the current fiscal year to June 30, 1860, are estimated at.....40,000,655 24

Making the expenditures for the current fiscal year under existing authority.....64,208,132 00

Deducting the aggregate expenditure from the aggregate of the means before estimated for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1860, will leave an estimated balance in the Treasury on the 30th June, 1860, of.....$14,301,809 40

Estimates for the fiscal year from July 1, 1860, to June 30, 1861.

Balance in the Treasury July 1, 1860, as above stated.....$14,301,809 40
Estimated receipts from customs from July 1, 1860, to June 30, 1861.....60,000,000 00
Estimated receipts from public lands from July 1, 1860, to June 30, 1861.....4,000,000 00
Estimated receipts from miscellaneous sources from July 1, 1860, to June 30, 1861.....2,125,808 60
Aggregate means.....$80,426,808 40

Estimated expenditures from permanent appropriations.....$4,173,682 42
Estimated expenditures from unexpended balances of appropriations.....12,927,492 79
Estimated expenditures from new appropriations submitted for.....46,379,999 58
Total.....$63,774,934 79

Deducting the aggregate estimated expenditures from the aggregate estimated resources of the Treasury during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1861, as before stated, the estimated balance will remain in the Treasury on the 30th June, 1861, of.....$16,651,873 61

The failure of Congress at its last session to pass the bill for the service of the Post Office Department renders necessary appropriations for that department which must be paid during the present fiscal year. As these amounts are not contained in the preceding statement, it will be necessary to consider them, in order to arrive at the true condition of the Treasury at the close of the present and next fiscal years.

It will be seen from the communication of the Postmaster-General, accompanying my report on the estimates, that there will be required to pay the deficiency in that department for the fiscal year ending the 30th of June, 1860, the sum of $4,206,809; and to supply the deficiency for the current fiscal year ending the 30th of June, 1861, the further sum of $5,536,324. In addition to these amounts the Secretary of the Interior has submitted an estimate for the sum of $539,354 which he will require during the present fiscal year to carry out certain Indian treaties approved at the last session of Congress. These three items, amounting to $10,281,487, must be met during the present fiscal year; and must therefore be deducted from the estimated balance in the treasury on the 30th of June, 1860, which will leave in the treasury at that time an estimated balance of $4,020,125 40, and an estimated balance on the 30th of June, 1861, of $6,440,106 61. This last amount will be increased to the extent of the unexpended appropriations for the next fiscal year which may remain in the treasury unexpended on the 30th of June, 1861.

It will be seen that there will be no necessity to provide additional means for the Treasury, provided the appropriations made by Congress do not exceed the estimates submitted for the next fiscal year.

I speak with much confidence in the estimate of probable receipts during the present and next fiscal years. It is based upon the operations of our trade and commerce for the last twelve months, and upon the conviction that the business of the country will continue in the present state of comparative prosperity.

At the last session of Congress I submitted an estimate of the probable receipts into the Treasury for the then three remaining quarters of the fiscal year ending the 30th of June, 1859. The result has approximated the estimate with unprecedented accuracy—the actual receipts being $20,619,931, while the estimate was $20,500,000—and so the present estimates are based upon similar data, it should greatly strengthen the confidence to be put in their correctness.

Some apprehension has been felt that the large amount of imports during the last twelve months would be attended with unhappy results in the business of the country. This apprehension would be removed if the facts showed that the imports exceed the wants of the country and its ability to pay for them. The imports during the last fiscal year (as will be seen by reference to table 3) were $362,709,120, while the exports for the same period were $338,768,493, leaving a balance of imports over exports of $23,940,627. An inspection of the imports of the last fiscal year will show, that in some large item (consumption, Table exhibits the amount of goods in warehouse at New-York, on the 1st of December, for a series of years. It will be seen that the amount on hand on the 1st of November last exceeded considerably the amount in previous years, when the country was highly prosperous and its business speedy and regular. These facts do not exhibit a speculative state of trade and business. One fact, however, connected with our exports has attracted much attention, and has many to believe that we were exporting beyond our ability to pay. I allude to the increase of specie in our exports during the present fiscal year. It is supposed in the possession of the country only the portion of it circulating medium, which, from time to time, it abandons for the more convenient, and, in the case of gold, more portable medium of exchange. It would, however, be difficult to determine at any given moment what portion of the precious metals, in the possession of the country, is thus employed as money, and what portion is held for other purposes. In the United States, where the specie for circulation, for banking, and for exportation, is derived from the same source, it is impossible to say to what extent any one of these purposes is supported.

It is estimated that there were 4000 California prospectors who received unlimited gain. Would her commercial house have exported so much gold if the country had been drained of its circulating medium? Would the banks have been enabled to maintain the resumption of specie payments? Would the resumption have been maintained for so long a time? Would the specie have been retained in the country? Would the rate of exchange have been so favorable? Would the rate of interest have been so low? Would the price of property have been so high? Would the production of cotton, wheat, and other articles of export have been so much increased? Would the consumption of foreign articles have been so large? Would the importations have been so great? Would the business of the country have been so active? Would the state of the public revenue have been so prosperous? Would the Treasury have been able to meet its liabilities promptly? These questions, and many others that might be asked, can be answered in the affirmative, and they show that the production of cotton over the wants of her people. The argument is as applicable to all the States as to one, and I have used the illustrations of single States only because they were more marked and striking. Unless the export of specie goes to the extent of violating this manifest principle, it constitutes no just ground of alarm or anxiety. In this connection it should be observed that the large excess of specie exports commenced with the discovery of the California mines, and has increased very much in proportion to their increased production, as will be seen by reference to table 8, which exhibits for a series of years the amount of our export of specie. The exact amount of the production of the California mines during this period is not known, but it is believed that it exceeds very largely the amount which has been generally stated. We have no reliable mode of ascertaining it; but, from the best information I have been able to obtain, I should estimate the amount for the last year at not less than seventy millions of dollars.

However the export of specie should proceed proper limits, the effect will soon be seen and felt in the financial and commercial operations of the country. It could probably be first exhibited in the specie basis of the banks, showing an increased proportion of circulation and deposits to the amount of specie in their vaults, and this would soon be followed by derangement and depression in the general trade and business of the country. At present there is no evidence that either of these results are to be apprehended. By reference to table 9 it will be seen that the specie basis of the banks, (when the tables for 1859 were prepared,) as compared with their circulation and deposits, is more favorable than in 1858, the year preceding the increase of specie exports. It is probable that some change has occurred since the last bank reports; or that we have no reliable information; but it is not believed that it will materially vary the general proposition. It is appropriate here to remark, that in view of the large and constant increase of the production of the precious metals, the country should look to the policy of substituting specie to a great extent for the present paper circulation. The process should be gradual, and whilst it would not derange the business of the country, would operate as a wholesome check upon banking and overtrading. The adoption of an independent treasury system by the action of the States, as recommended in a former report, would go far to warrant the accomplishment of this desirable result.

There is no means of ascertaining the amount of specie in general circulation. All estimates on that point are purely speculative. During a prosperous condition of the country it no doubt increases with the demands of business; and whenever from any cause the supply is below the wants of the country, it will be manifested by a depression in trade and general embarrassment. Until these indications appear, we may safely calculate that there has been the usual and necessary increase.

With some persons the idea seems to prevail that we are necessarily overtrading with those countries to which our specie is carried, and as the most of it goes to the ports of Great Britain, they conclude that we are, therefore, buying too largely of British productions. The fact that payments are made in England must not be considered as conclusive evidence that the debt has been contracted in the course of our trade with that country. By reference to table 10 it will be seen that our imports for the year ending June 30, 1859, from the East and West Indies, and other countries named in the table, exceed our exports to those countries to the full extent of the excess of our export of specie. It will also be observed that the articles which we import from those countries are articles of necessity, and generally such as are not produced in our own country. These articles must be had, and if we cannot furnish in exchange for them any other of our productions, they must be paid for in specie; and it is not material whether the specie for that purpose is sent to London or to the foreign port of exportation. If this branch of trade consumes the excess of specie exports, it would leave our commercial operations with all other countries upon a safe basis, even in the estimation of those who indulge so many apprehensions on account of our heavy exports of specie. It should be observed in this connection, that our exports to Great Britain for the last fiscal year exceed our imports about fifty millions; the excess, to a great extent, being applied to the payment of the demands of the countries to which I have just referred.

These views are submitted to the consideration of Congress in support of the opinion that we may look with confidence to a continued increase in the business of the country. The natural tendency in times of prosperity is to extravagance and overtrading, and this feeling should not be stimulated. If indulged, it will in the future, as it has done in the past, lead to revulsions and embarrassments; but there is no serious danger to be apprehended if the increased business of the country continues to bear a proper proportion to those natural causes which produce and sustain it.

Entertaining these views, I do not doubt that the actual receipts into the treasury for the present and next fiscal years will be fully equal to the estimates. The only remaining question in connection with the estimates to be considered is the probable demands upon the treasury during this period. If the appropriations made at the present session do not exceed the amount contained in the estimates, it is believed that they can be met with the ordinary and extraordinary receipts already provided for by law. The estimated balance that will be in the treasury on the 30th June, 1861, is only $6,440,106 61, and leaves no margin for additional appropriations. If, therefore, the appropriations should exceed the estimates, or Congress should determine to provide within this period for the payment of any portion of the public debt, it will become necessary to make provision for such contingencies. The idea of increasing the public debt to meet the ordinary expenses of the Government should not be entertained for a moment. If additional demands are created upon the treasury by the legislation of the present Congress, provision must be made to meet them by such increase of tariff duties as may be required for that purpose. In such an event I would respectfully refer Congress to my last report, as containing the views of the department on the subject.

A critical examination of the estimates for the next fiscal year, submitted to Congress, will exhibit considerable reduction from former estimates. The remark is applicable to every department where any discretion can be exercised over the expenditure. In most cases the amounts are fixed by law, and can neither be increased nor diminished by the head of the department. I have endeavored to enforce the strictest economy in the various branches of the Treasury Department. In the single branch for collecting the revenue the expense has been materially reduced by adopting and carrying out, where the power existed, the reforms recommended in the bill for reorganizing the collection districts of the United States, &c., submitted by the department to the last Congress. With further reductions which it is contemplated to make, I have felt warranted in reducing the estimate for the expenses of collecting the revenue for the next fiscal year five hundred thousand dollars. The passage of the bill to which I have referred would greatly aid the department in this work of reform.

The public debt on the 1st July, 1858, as stated in my last annual report, was $20,158,077 66. The act of June 14, 1858, authorized an additional loan of $20,000,000, which has been accordingly negotiated. Of this $19,000,000 had been paid into the treasury, and the stock issued therefor, on the 1st of July, 1859, the commencement of the present fiscal year. A portion of the remainder has been since paid, and the stock therefor issued. The balance will doubtless be soon completed, which will make the permanent public debt $45,158,977 66.

Of the temporary public debt authorized by the act of December 23, 1857, providing for the issue of $20,000,000 in treasury notes, there were outstanding on the 1st July, 1858, as shown by my last report, $19,764,600. On the 30th June, 1859, the close of the last fiscal year, the amount of these notes outstanding was $19,648,600. The details of the various descriptions of the public debt on the 30th June, 1859, are shown by the statement marked 2.

In the estimated means of the Treasury for the present and next fiscal years, it will be seen that no provision is made for the permanent redemption of any portion of the twenty millions of Treasury notes. The authority for re-issuing these notes will expire on the 30th June next, and it will therefore be necessary for Congress to extend the law for that purpose for another period.

On the 31st of January last, I submitted to the House of Representatives, in answer to resolutions of that body, a report in reference to the export and import trade of the United States with Great Britain and France. The investigation which I was required to make for that purpose brought to my attention the various systems adopted by different countries of obtaining and keeping commercial statistics. These systems are so variant that I found it impracticable to institute any comparison of the facts exhibited in the tables of different Governments, which could be regarded as accurate and reliable. Every commercial man will pronounce such a state of things an evil of great magnitude, and one which demands a prompt remedy, if it can be found.

In view of the exploration of the documents assembled in that report, and for the purpose of bringing the subject to the attention of the present Congress, I append to this report a copy of the communication, marked [illegible] which I beg leave to call to a consideration at this time. I do not know a greater benefit that could be conferred upon the commercial interest of the country, or on a small an expense, than the adoption by the leading commercial Governments of the world of a uniform system of commercial statistics—a uniform unit and currency, and uniform weights and measures. Upon one branch of the subject, valuable suggestions will be found in the accompanying report of the Director of the mint. The importance of the subject cannot be overestimated, and it is hoped that it will receive the careful consideration of Congress at its present session.

I must again call the attention of Congress to the provisions of the act of March 3, 1857, in the subject of deposits by disbursing agents, and repeat the recommendations heretofore made for its modification. In my former reports I have presented the reasons for some change of that act so fully that I deem it unnecessary to do more in this direction than to refer to those reports, and, for the present, therein submit again to your consideration the action of Congress on the subject.

The attention of Congress is particularly called to the accompanying report from the Register in charge of the Bureau of Construction, &c., giving in detail the condition of the appropriations for that Bureau, and of the works within the superintendence of the various public buildings under the direction of the Department. The public interest requires that the progress of these works should not be retarded, and the Department has therefore expended in their erection before my connection with this Department. For this neither my predecessors nor myself are responsible. Our duty in the premises has been simply executive. Under these circumstances I submitted, at the last session of Congress, estimates for continuing the work upon them during the present fiscal year. Having been commenced, I deemed it sound policy and true economy to prosecute the works with energy to their completion. The estimates submitted at the last session were made under that conviction. Congress took a different view of the subject, and reduced the estimates to a point which seemed to look merely to the policy of preserving the unfinished works from injury, and suspending, for the present, at least, their completion. In accordance with the policy thus indicated, I directed the operation on all these buildings to be brought within the means at the disposal of the Department, and when those means were exhausted to stop the work. The report of the Engineer in charge will show that these directions have been thus far complied with. The balances of former appropriations will soon be exhausted, when all further operations will be suspended. In accordance with the policy so clearly indicated by the action of the last Congress, I have only estimated for a sufficient sum to keep them from injury for the next fiscal year. If Congress should adopt a different policy at the present session, and determine to continue operations on these works, I would respectfully refer to the report of the Engineer in charge for estimates of the amounts that will be required during the next fiscal year.

I would again invite the attention of Congress to the subject of marine hospitals. The facts submitted as well in the last as in the present report of the Engineer in charge of the Bureau of Construction, demand an investigation of the subject by Congress. The views which I have heretofore presented are strengthened by each year's experience, and I would again press them upon the consideration of Congress. Three new hospitals have been completed, and are ready to be put in operation. Before it is done, the necessity and propriety of the step should be considered in the light of the facts presented in the reports to which I have referred. The refusal of the last Congress to authorize any additional buildings of this character would indicate a concurrence with the views of the Department on the subject. It only remains to be determined what disposition should be made of those which have already been erected.

In reference to other public buildings authorized by previous acts of Congress, and heretofore suspended for the want of means, steps have been taken to secure the selection of proper sites. Plans and specifications are being prepared with a view of commencing their erection when it can be done with a due regard to the condition of the treasury. The policy of the last Congress, in suspending the work upon those already in process of construction, would indicate that new ones should not be commenced until provision is made for the completion of those already begun.

The condition of the Louisville and Portland Canal is so anomalous as to require the action of Congress. Under the amended charter of the State of Kentucky of Jan. 21, 1842, the stock previously belonging to individuals has been redeemed from the earnings of the canal, except that a single share each is held by certain persons to qualify them to act as directors of the corporation. The act of the State of Kentucky of Feb. 22, 1844, provides that when the United States shall become the sole owner of the canal the jurisdiction of the State over it shall be yielded to the United States.

The amount advanced from the Treasury for the construction of this Canal was $633,500, and the amount of dividends paid into the Treasury up to 1843 is $250,122 48, so that in fact the whole cost of the stock held by the United States had been returned previous to the amended charter. Since that charter, and the redemption of the stock of individuals under its provisions, the earnings of the Canal have been applied to its improvement by the Directors, and whenever the amount has exceeded that requirement, it is understood the tolls have been reduced. No revenue has been received from it since that period, and no dividends declared.

Under the laws of Kentucky the United States are substantially owners of this canal, but no authority has been given to supersede the corporation in its management, no action having been had by Congress on this subject since the amended charter by Kentucky. Under these circumstances I would refer the whole subject to Congress for such action as they may deem proper.

The annual report of the Director of the Mint is herewith transmitted, (marked 12,) as also the reports of the various Bureaus of the Treasury Department, (marked from A to L.) They contain much interesting information in connexion with their respective branches of the public service.

The report of the Superintendent of the Coast Survey will be laid before Congress at an early day.

HOWELL COBB, Secretary of the Treasury.

THE POST-OFFICE DEPARTMENT.

Report of Postmaster-General Holt.

POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT, Dec. 5, 1859.

SIR: In the month of March last, the sudden decease of my enlightened and deeply lamented predecessor, immediately preceded as it was by the death of the Third Assistant Postmaster-General—so long and so honorably connected with the administration of the postal revenues—filled this department with discouragement and gloom. Associated with this double calamity came another which awakened painful anxieties, not only from its intrinsic magnitude, but from the fact that the history of the Government, from its foundation, furnished no parallel for such a disaster. My allusion is, of course, to the failure of Congress to pass the customary appropriation bill for the support of the Post Office Department, whereby, with all its responsibilities resting upon it, and the fulfillment of all its duties demanded by the country, it was still deprived of the use of its own revenues, and thus necessarily of all means of complying with its engagements to the faithful officers toiling in its service. The ordeal so unexpectedly prepared for it was, in all its aspects, as novel as it was perplexing, and disquieting apprehensions were naturally felt for the result. When, however, from high political considerations, the President announced his purpose not to convene Congress in special session, and the full measure of the crisis was thus revealed, the contractors and others charged with the maintenance of the postal administration, manifested everywhere a determination to meet the emergency with courage and with a lofty public spirit. With very rare exceptions, every duty pertaining to the transmission and delivery of the mails, has been performed as cordially and faithfully, during the last nine months, as at any former period. While, however, this is referred to with gratification, and cannot be too warmly commended, it must not be forgotten that this fidelity, in the midst of abandonment and privation, has cost a numerous and deserving class of public servants severe pecuniary sacrifice. Feeling anxious that they should be relieved as far as possible from the embarrassments in which they were so suddenly involved, statements evidencing the indebtedness of the department to its contractors and agents have been issued to each, in the hope that in the easy condition of the money market, their holders might obtain advances upon them without serious loss. It is to be feared, however, that these, under circumstances obliged them to dispose of these securities, have in many cases been compelled to submit to a heavy discount. I would most earnestly urge upon Congress the necessity of making an early appropriation to meet all the existing liabilities of the department. As the faith of the Government has been broken, not only should the principal of these debts be promptly paid, but interest on them should also be allowed. In many instances this may prove but an imperfect indemnity for the damage which the creditors of the department have actually sustained, but this much, at least, is due from the gravest considerations of public justice and policy, and cannot, in my judgment, be withheld without national dishonor.

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURES.

The actual (paid) expenditures of the department in the fiscal year ending June 30, 1859, amounted to.....$11,456,093 62

For transportation of inland mails, including payments to route agents, local agents, and mail messengers.....$6,119,899 00
For transportation of foreign mails, to wit:
New-York to Liverpool.....883,177 30
New-York to Havre.....136,122 11
New-York to Bremen.....44,161 92
New-Orleans by Havana to New-Grenada.....77,213 49
New-York to Havana.....6,000 84
Charleston to Havana.....60,000 00
New-Orleans to Vera Cruz.....3,410 72
Panama to Valparaiso.....100,000 00
Agencies at Panama and Aspin wall.....2,000 71
Transit rights.....2,627 45—884,659 05
For California mails under special appropriations, to wit:
Panama to Astoria, from Oct. 1, 1856, to June 30, 1857.....$241,666 66
San Francisco to Olympia.....122,500 00—364,166 66
For service in Territories, to wit:
New-Mexico, from July 1, 1858, to June 30, 1859.....$90,305 01
For service in Texas.....
For service in Florida, and way letters.....
For service in Utah.....
For service in Kansas.....
For advertising.....
For blanks.....
For mail bags.....
For mail locks, keys, and repairing bags.....
For mail depredations and special agents.....
For postage stamps.....
For stamped envelopes.....
Carried forward.....
Brought forward.....
For wrapping paper.....
For pay allowed to letter carriers.....
For compensation to postmasters.....
For payments for balances due to British mails.....
For payments for balances due on Prussian mails.....
For payments for balances due on steamship mails.....
For payments for balances due on French mails.....
For payments for balances due on Belgian mails.....
Total of actual (paid) expenses.....$11,456,093 62

But to this must be added the outstanding liabilities of the Department, which could not be paid owing to the failure of Congress to make the usual appropriations, and which now constitute a deficiency to be provided for to June 30, 1859.....4,206,679 26

Total of actual (paid) expenditures and liabilities.....$15,734,692 88

This sum includes $750,590 56 appropriated by special acts of Congress out of the general treasury, which, being deducted, leaves the actual (paid) expenditures $10,668,494 07, instead of $11,456,093 63, and the total of expenditures and liabilities $14,984,492 32, instead of $15,734,692 88.

If there be added to $11,456,093 63 the sum of $55 96, closed by suspense, and the sum of $627 26 gained on the bad debt account be substracted, then the actual expenditures, as adjusted in the Auditor's Office, will be $11,457,512 93.

The gross revenue for the year 1859, including receipts from letter-carriers and from foreign postages, amounted to $7,066,454 07, as stated below:

Letter postage	$6,944,531 78
Registered letters	20,083 00
Stamps sold	1
Newspapers and pamphlets	1
Fines	60 00
Receipts on account of emoluments	19,010 07
Receipts on account of letter-carriers	187,023 69
Receipts on account of dead letters	3,176 79
Receipts on account of exchanges	1
Miscellaneous receipts	19,054 79
Total revenue	$7,066,454 07

Being an increase of 6 per cent. over the revenue of the year ending June 30, 1858, but still $2,700,000 short of the actual (paid) expenditures ($10,668,494 07) as adjusted on the Auditor's books, exclusive of the permanent annual appropriations, amounting to $700,000, granted to the Department by the acts of March 3, 1847, and March 3, 1851, for the transportation and delivery of free mail matter for Congress and the Executive Departments, and the special appropriation for mail transportation.

To this amount ($3,700,000) must be added the unpaid liabilities or deficiency, as estimated on June 30, 1858, $4,206,679 26, making the total excess of expenditures for the year $6,906,809 26.

I respectfully invite attention to the highly-satisfactory report of the Auditor, hereto appended. From this interesting document I derive the following synopsis of the financial operations of the department in the past fiscal year:

The balance standing to the credit of the Department on the books of the Auditor on June 30, 1858, was	$691,313 05
The receipts of the Department from all sources during the year 1859	7,066,454 07
Amount of bad debts collected	237 26
The amount of various appropriations drawn from the Treasury during the year, was	$3,915,945 49
From which should be deducted—	
Sum appropriated by act of March, 1857, and 3d March, 1851) for the year 1859, applied to the service of 1858, leaving	3,890,916 49
Total receipts	$12,149,220 69
The whole amount of actual (paid) expenses in the year, including $55 96 for bees ats closed by suspense	11,456,093 62
Leaving to the credit of the Department July 1, 1859	$710,231 29

This amount of $710,231 29 to the credit of the revenue of the department July 1, 1859, is made up of balances due from postmasters and late postmasters which have been accumulating from July 1, 1845, and can only be made available as they are collected.

For the year ending June 30, 1858, the expenditures were	$12,122,470 01
And the revenue	7,066,792 66
Excess of expenditures for 1858	$1,055,677 15
For the year ending June 30, 1859, the expenditures and liabilities were	$16,964,483 33
And the revenue	7,066,454 07
Excess of expenditures for 1859	$9,897,929 26

ESTIMATE OF RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES FOR 1860.

Expenditures.

The estimated cost of mail service for the year ending June 30, 1860, to be appropriated out of the revenues of the department, exclusive of the transportation of the mail from New-York and New-Orleans, by the Isthmus, to San Francisco, 9 months, to June 30, 1860, and of foreign mails, of payments for foreign postages, and to letter-carriers, is.....$13,941,610 00
For the transportation of the mail between New-York and New-Orleans, by the Isthmus, to San Francisco, 9 months, to June 30, 1860.....867,570 00
For the transportation of the mail over the Isthmus of Panama, 9 months.....712,500 00
For the transportation of the mail between San Francisco and Olympia.....122,500 00
For the transportation of the mail between New-York and Havana and New-Orleans and Havana.....30,000 00
For the transportation of the mail between New-Orleans and Vera Cruz.....3,000 00
For transatlantic mail steamship service.....325,000 00
For payments of balances due to foreign countries.....300,000 00
For payments of letter carriers.....197,027 00
Estimated expenditures for 1860.....$16,671,547 00

The following payments have been made under special act of Congress approved March 3, 1859, (Statutes at Large, vol. XI., p. 409:)

For transportation of the mail from Panama to California and Oregon and back, from July 1 to Sept. 30, 1859.....87,662 50
For transportation of the mail across the Isthmus of Panama, from July 1 to Sept. 30, 1859.....35,000 00
For transportation of the mail from New-Orleans, via Tehuantepec, to Ventura and back, from July 1 to Sept. 30, 1859.....23,472 12
Total.....$16,817,681 62

MEANS FOR 1860.

The balance standing to the credit of the department on the books of the Auditor on July 1, 1859, was	$710,231 29
The gross revenue for the year 1860, including foreign postages, fees paid in by letter-carriers, and miscellaneous receipts, estimated at an increase of 4 per cent. on the revenues of 1859, making	8,387,232 96
Of the appropriations made by the acts of March 3, 1851	1,000,000 00
Of the appropriations under the 5th section of the act of June 14, 1858, deemed perpetual by the Attorney-General	350,000 00
Of appropriations, March 3, 1859	167,000 00
	10,972,674 71
Deficiency of means for the service of 1860	$4,816,982 71
To this deficiency should be added the amount reported by the Auditor as standing to the credit of the department on June 30, 1859, the entire sum being an accumulation since 1845 in the hands of Postmasters, and can only be made available as collected	710,231 29
Estimated deficiency for the year ending June 30, 1860	$5,526,214 00

The above estimates are increased by the cost of mail routes between New-York and San Francisco and Olympia $372,000, which have heretofore been provided for by special appropriations and paid by the Navy Department, and have never appeared in the ordinary estimates of expenditures prepared by this department.

ESTIMATE OF RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES FOR 1861.

Expenditures.

The estimated cost of mail service for the year ending June 30, 1861, to be appropriated out of the revenues of the department, exclusive of the transportation of the mails from New-York and New-Orleans, by the Isthmus, to San Francisco, and of foreign mails, of payments for foreign postages and letter-carriers, is.....$14,947,626 04
For the transportation of the mail between New-York and New-Orleans, by the Isthmus, to San Francisco.....950,000 00
For the transportation of the mail between San Francisco.....122,000 00
For transportation of the mail between New-York, and Havana and New-Orleans, and Havana.....30,000 00
For transportation of the mail between New-Orleans and Vera Cruz.....3,000 00
For the transatlantic mail steamship service.....325,000 00
For payments of balances due to foreign countries, estimated.....300,000 00
For payments of letter-carriers.....197,027 00
Estimated expenditures for 1861.....$16,874,653 04

MEANS FOR 1861.

The gross revenue for the year 1861, including foreign postages, fees paid in by letter-carriers and miscellaneous receipts, is estimated at an increase of 5 per cent. on the estimated receipts for 1860, making	$8,812,791 08
Of the appropriations made by the act of March 3, 1857	1,000,000 00
Of the appropriations under the 5th section of the act of June 14, 1858, deemed perpetual by the Attorney-General	350,000 00
Estimated deficiency for the year ending June 30, 1861	$6,696,861 04

The above estimates are increased by the cost of mail routes between New-York and San Francisco and Olympia $372,000, which have heretofore been provided for by special appropriations, and paid by the Navy Department.

The deficiency for 1861 is estimated at $3,696,861 04, upon the assumption that the measures of reform recommended in this report will not be adopted by Congress. Should they, however, all receive the sanction of that body during the present session, it is believed, as hereafter shown, that the deficiency for that year would not exceed $1,000,000.

POST-OFFICE REVENUE AND EXPENDITURES.

The income of foreign mails, supplied by postmasters during the year ending June 30, 1859, was as follows:

Cents.	Number.	Cents.	Number.	Cents.	Number.
44	1,320,000	147,857,000	400,000	2,200,000	1,430,000

Which number, 152,991,000 pieces, yielded.....$6,279,405 00
Stamped envelopes, 30,200,000 pieces, yielded.....603,120 00
Total.....$6,882,525 00
Total value of postage stamps and stamped envelopes issued during the year ending June 30, 1859.....$6,882,787 00
Increase during 1859.....$1,038,748 00

TRANSPORTATION STATISTICS.

On the 30th of June last there were in operation 6,723 mail-routes. The number of contractors was 7,958.

The length of these routes is estimated at 260,052 miles, divided as follows, viz.:

Railroad	26,018 miles.
Steamboat	19,209 miles.
Coach	83,681 miles.
Inferior modes	131,144 miles.

The total annual transportation of mails was 69,306,402 miles, costing $4,458,750, and divided as follows:

	Miles in transportation.	Cost.	Cents per mile.
Railroad	27,262,304	$3,243,974	11.9
Steamboat	4,660,982	1,197,945	25.7
Coach	31,381,116	4,134,264	13.2
Inferior modes	27,001,964	1,672,566	6.2

Compared with the service reported June 30, 1858, there is a decrease of 645 miles in the length of the mail routes, an addition of 2,545,611 miles to the annual transportation, being about 4.4 per cent, and of $17,272 in the cost, or about 0.38 per cent.

The aggregate length of railroad routes has been increased 1,878 miles, and the annual transportation thereon 1,548,938 miles; 5.91 per cent., at 8 cent of $41,273, or 14.09 per cent.

The length of steamboat routes is greater by 2,166 miles, and the annual transportation by 252 miles; the cost is $76,773 less, being a reduction of 6.16 per cent.

The addition to coach routes is 2,241 miles in length, 2,982,664 miles in annual transportation, or 10.9 per cent., and $1,236,259 in cost, or 54.1 per cent.

The length of inferior routes is diminished 12,627 miles, and the annual transportation 1,851,627 miles; the additional cost is $160,542; being 8.42 per cent. less in transportation, and 9 per cent. additional in cost.

Appended to this report is a table (marked —) showing in detail the mail service of every grade as existing in each separate State and Territory on the 30th of June last.

The letdings of new contracts for the term commencing 1st July last embraced five States—Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia and Florida.

The following table shows the new service as in operation on the 30th of September:

Conveyance.	Miles in length.	Miles of annual transportation.	Cost.
Railroad	1,220	2,550,075	$615,240
Steamboat	1,257	767,313	159,852
Coach	1,010	1,338,836	97,150
Inferior modes	25,120	5,257,836	231,240
Total	29,617	10,909,060	1,201,501

Compared with the service on the 30th of June last, in the same States, the length of the routes, by railroads and inferior modes, is increased 974 miles, and by steamboat and coach is diminished 6,262 miles; the annual transportation is diminished 943,574 miles, and the cost $2,542, divided as follows, to wit:

	Miles in transportation.	Annual transportation.	Cost.
Railroad	191 inc'se.	238,194 inc'se.	$19,206 inc'se.
Steamboat	2,265 dec'se.	208,942 dec'se.	17,046 dec'se.
Coach	3,326 dec'se.	1,105,320 dec'se.	85,316 dec'se.
Inferior modes	733 inc'se.	169,261 inc'se.	81,710 inc'se.

On the 30th June last there were in the service—
418 route agents, at a compensation of.....$332,827
24 express agents, at a compensation of.....20,000
43 local agents, at a compensation of.....29,319
1,349 mail messengers, at a compensation of.....139,000
Total.....$639,176
This amount added to the cost of service as in operation on 30th June.....3,868,781
Makes the total on the 30th June last.....$10,068,831
The reductions in the cost of the service from the 30th June to the 30th September were.....607,321
Making the total amount on 30th September.....$9,457,510

NUMBER OF POST-OFFICES.

Whole number of post-offices in the United States on the 30th June, 1859.....27,977
Number that were established during the year ending June 30, 1860.....1,435
Number that were discontinued.....803
Net increase of offices during the year.....632
Whole number of post-offices on the 30th June, 1860.....28,609
Number of offices of which the names and sites were changed.....432
Number of which the appointments were made by the President.....417
Number of postmasters appointed during the year ending June 30, 1860.....1,443
Of these 1,006 were to fill vacancies occasioned by resignation; 187 were to fill vacancies occasioned by removals; 236 were to fill vacancies occasioned by deaths; 292 were to fill vacancies occasioned by change of names and sites; 1,436 were to fill vacancies occasioned by establishment of new offices.

DISTRIBUTION OFFICES.

The subject of the "distribution" of letters having engaged the attention of the Department, an order was made on the 30th of April last, discontinuing thirteen of the fifty distributing offices then existing, and substituting therefor the practice of direct mailing. The high commissions allowed for the process of distribution have proved not only a heavy burden upon the revenues of the Department, but also a strong incentive to abuse. But while the order mentioned was important as a measure of economy, and as a means of preventing frauds, it was yet more desirable for the acceleration of the mails. Offices of this description were formerly a very valuable, and, in fact, indispensable element in the postal system of the country, owing to its vast extent, and the rapidity with which population spread into new districts, causing cities, towns and villages to struggle for existence with the forest and prairie, and rendering it impossible to keep pace with the names and locations of the numberless new offices demanded by the habits of a people accustomed to the constant interchange of thought and intelligence. Some offices, therefore, had to be designated as the receptacles of correspondence from a section of continuous country, and for remailing and sending it in packages to others of similar functions, more or less distant, thence to be distributed to its destination. In this manner these offices, situated in the East and West, the North and South, mutually acted upon each other, and performed useful service. This was when the mails were carried in stages and other vehicles, and when pauses were necessarily made for the refreshment of passengers and the change of animals, allowing at the same time of "distribution" at the post-office

NEW-YORK ACADEMY OF MEDICINE.

Dispersion of the Corpuscular Elements of Chloroform, and Sulphuric Ether.

MEDICAL ADMINISTRATION—THEIR PHYSIOLOGICAL EFFECTS.

DELIVERED BY

WEDNESDAY EVENING, Dec. 21, 1859.

After the reading of the minutes of the previous meeting, Dr. Francis presented a beautiful specimen of Connecticut manufacture, consisting of a pair of pulley-wrist and pulley-ankle supporters, for the use of invalids, one of the Committee on Publication, &c.

Dr. Carnochan reported that the Committee had received a letter from Dr. Hodge, of Philadelphia, declining the invitation to deliver the Annual Address before the Academy, on account of the pressure of other duties.

The Librarian, Dr. Stearns, reported that the Library had been increased by the addition of 100 volumes, and 200 pamphlets, since the last meeting.

The Chairman announced the following gentlemen as the Committee of Arrangements for the Annual Dinner, which takes place on the 29th inst.: Drs. Francis, Watts, Stearns, Parker, Peaslee, Hunter, Cheever, Carnochan, Delafield, Bell, Gilman, Hodge, Metcalfe, Bogert, Hall, Hammond, Bumstead, Bedford, Cox, Sayre, Wood, Hutchinson, Gilbert, Hoffman, Bliss, Peaslee, Flower.

The Secretary read a letter from Dr. Gardner, of Fall River, Mass., announcing the discovery of a new anæsthetic agent, which he proposed to call Amylene, and which he had found to be a compound of Chloroform and Alcohol. He had tried it in a number of cases, and found it to be a safe and reliable anæsthetic. He had also found that it could be used without danger in cases of pregnancy, and that it was not followed by the disagreeable nausea and vomiting which usually succeed the use of Chloroform

...ufficient to meet the demands of the service, the department is forced to continued efforts to an increase of its earnings, which is not often made to accommodate the public, but to be deducted, because they deprive the public of such accommodations for which they have fully paid, and which they are therefore entitled to enjoy.

A similar power existed for the abolition of the franking privilege on mere discretion; but it has so far existed under color to be temporarily from its enforcement. The abuses, to an enormous extent, have grown upon the country for years, have progressively increased. It has been often stated by the Postmaster-General, and it is matter of public notoriety, that enormous amounts of packages are transported under the Government franks, which neither the letter nor the spirit of the statute creating the franking privilege would justify; that a large number of letters, documents, and packages are thus conveyed covered by the frank of persons, written in violation of law, not by themselves, but by some real or pretended agent—while whole stacks of similar matter, which have never been handled nor seen by Government functionaries, are transported under franks which have been forged. The extreme difficulty of detecting such irregularities has greatly multiplied the cases of offenses, while their prevalence has so weakened the public sentiment in reference to them that a conviction, however ample the proof, is scarcely possible to be obtained. The statute of 1825, denouncing the counterfeiting of an official frank under a heavy penalty, is practically inoperative. I refer you to the case reported at length by the United States Attorney for this District, as affording a glaring illustration that violated public opinion, if backed from the jury box. The proof was complete, and the case unexplained by a single palliation, and yet the offender was discharged unattended, to be sure, if it should please him, his guilty task. This freedom of acquittal is understood to have been rendered on technical grounds. First, that the accused said he did not commit the offence "to avoid the payment of the postage;" and second, that the offence has become so prevalent that it is no longer proper to punish it. These are startling propositions, whether regarded in their legal, moral or logical aspects. They announce that to render the violation of a statute legal, it is only necessary to render it general; and that the counterfeiter of the frank of a member of Congress, in order to shield himself from punishment, has only when arrested, to declare that he committed the infamous offense in charge of pecuniary guilt—that very crime that nationality punishes with death. The law which teaches that a rational agent shall be held to contemplate and design those results which necessarily follow from his conduct. If such language as this, coming up from the criminal courts of the country, does not arouse Congress to the necessity of promptly performing this already great and rapidly growing evil, then it is to be feared that nothing can do so. The franking privilege has thus become an active instrument of public demoralization. When a crime is committed under the influence of strong temptation, a large measure of integrity may rescue it with the offender; but where an offence like this, essentially mercenary in its spirit, and grossly disreputable in its perpetration, is committed for the gain of a few cents, and when such offence becomes wide-spread in its prevalence, it evidences a condition of the public morals which cannot be contemplated without profound sorrow and the liveliest apprehensions. But no other reason exist than these abuses and the disastrous consequences to which *they lead, Congress would be fully justified in abolishing* the franking privilege.

Of the substitutes which have been proposed, that of prepayment by stamps, as recommended by my predecessor, is probably to be preferred. It would harmonize with the existing system, and being equally just, simple and practicable, it could be put into immediate operation without the slightest embarrassment. That a part of the abuses enumerated might still prevail, is not denied, but their consequences would fall, as they should, on the Government by whose officials they were perpetrated, instead of on this department, as they do at present.

While the franking privilege was enjoyed by the British Parliament, it was limited in its exercise, by the assignment of a given number of franks to each member per day, and the adjustment of this question by Congress would present a favorable moment for considering whether the public interests do not require that some similar restrictions should be imposed upon the unlimited license that now prevails.

But the restoration of the department to its original independence cannot be accomplished without the adoption of another measure of justice—that of charging on the public treasury all

ITEMS NOT STRICTLY POSTAL.

The revenues of the Department constitute a special trust fund, of which the treasury is the custodian, and the Government of the United States the responsible trustee. This fund belongs to those by whom it has been contributed, and stands pledged to meet the wants of the postal service. The Government, as such, has no interest in it, but has simply charged itself with the duty of faithfully administering it. There could be no more distinct and emphatic declaration of the position asserted, than is found in the act of 1836. The Government there fully recognizes and announces its relation to the postal fund, and, in view of this recognition, any appropriation, in whole or in part, of the revenue of the Department to purposes not strictly postal, is as flagrant a breach of trust as would be the application of the Smithsonian fund to the improvement of a river or harbor. It is well known, however, that for a series of years the Government has been occupied in advancing certain great national objects in the direction of our Pacific possessions, the entire burden of which has been imposed upon this Department, though its connection with these objects is exceedingly slight and only incidental. The subjoined table—a portion of which has already been presented in another connection—will exhibit the cost and products of a few of the post routes in that region, which have been established and paid for by acts passed by authority of law, and will make manifest the deplorable extent to which the Postal fund has been diverted from its legitimate purposes. To avoid fractions, the annual rate is given for the year, closing June 30, 1859:

	Cost.	Rec'ts.	Loss to Department.
Semi-weekly mail from St. Louis and Memphis, and El Paso to San Francisco	$800,000	$27,220	$572,779
Weekly mail from St. Joseph, Mo., to Salt Lake City, Utr.	190,000	4,319	185,700
Monthly mail from Neosho, Mo., to Albuquerque	17,500	330	16,669
Monthly mail from Kansas, Mo., to Stockton, Cal	79,200	1,255	78,744
Weekly mail from San Antonio, Texas, to San Diego, Cal.	196,448	601	195,847
Weekly mail from Salt Lake City to Placerville	120,000	1,302	118,797

This table presents results which are truly startling. The $800,000 paid annually for carrying a few sacks of letters from the valley of the Mississippi, *via* El Paso, through a waste and uninhabited country, would defray the aggregate cost of mail transportation, including route agents, local agents and messengers, in the States of Kentucky, Tennessee and North Carolina. The Post Office at Salt Lake City yields a revenue of but $700, and yet to connect that office with the valley of the Mississippi and the Pacific mail has been established during the past year $300,000. It will be observed that the annual loss from the six routes mentioned above is $1,176,620 66. The ocean mail service from California, heretofore on the Transit route across the coast of Panama, will, upon a new contract with the Department, and under the present advantageous contract will result in a loss during the current year, of at least $31,627 31. This, added to the $1,176,620 66 will exhibit a total loss for these seven routes, of $1,220,750 36—a sum sufficient to pay the entire expense of transporting the mails and the salaries of route and local agents, and postmasters in the States of Maryland, Pennsylvania and New-York. It would improve the postal facilities in all our cities, towns and populated districts, giving daily mails to those who are entitled to them, and who now have but a tri-weekly service, and tri-weekly to those who have but weekly accommodations. The power of steam and the electric telegraph have awakened in the most remote districts and in the most tranquil villages an energy and restlessness of social and commercial life, known in other ages, only amid the great commercial emporiums of the world. As a consequence, daily mails are rapidly becoming a universal necessity, and are now insisted on as a right by the smallest communities. Hence, it has been impossible to make the slightest curtailments, without provoking remonstrance and rebuke. But in presence of the statistics which have been presented, when the public complain that the postal service is not equal to the activity of their business and social relations, they should make such complaints heard, not here, but in the halls of Congress. They should appeal to their representatives to restore to this department its revenues which are now squandered in the wilderness, and when this shall have been done, then the other measures of justice and reform herein recommended shall have been adopted, then, by the practice of a severe economy, every reasonable demand upon the service can be met.

A comparison of the expenses and products of the routes named, leaves no room for doubt that the postal establishment which they afford is not looked by the government as an end, but as an instrument for the advancement of ulterior objects. Indeed, it has not been concealed, but openly avowed by the friends of the policy which maintained these routes, that they were intended as the pioneers of civilization; as the means of rapid and regular communication between remote military posts and the Government, and most especially as an instrumentality for promoting the settlement of our frontiers, and thus appreciating the value of the national domain. That these and kindred objects which may have been contemplated by the authors of this policy, are fully within the range of action which a great and enlightened government may prescribe for itself, will not be denied. But such objects are national and not at all postal in their character, and being intended, as they are, to advance the interests of the entire body politic, the expenditures which they involve should be met from the common treasury. The postal service does not lead, but follows population, and the devotion, directly or indirectly, in aid of schemes of colonization, of those revenues which are consecrated and set apart for the maintenance and expansion of mail accommodations, is a manifest breach of one of the most solemn obligations with which the Government has charged itself. It would be easy to distinguish the routes falling within this category of nonpostal, and were their establishment and regulation by Congress accompanied by a provision that, after the application of the revenue arising from them to their support, the balance due the contractors and other agencies should be defrayed from the Treasury, complete justice would be done to the Department, and the Government would have fully discharged one of the highest responsibilities which rests upon it as trustee of the postal fund.

Not to pursue the subject further, in view of what has been done and proposed, the financial status of the Department would be as follows:

Deficit for the year ending June 30, 1859... $8,864,089 20

Credits.

Annual retrenchment from curtailments already made—less $727,220, of the $927,—

Loss saved on renewal of contract for semi-monthly service in California, which $727,—

Increase in postages consequent on the reduction of the rate of letters to ½ instead of 1 by the

Postal revenues ... $1,130,221 64

... 1,858,093 84

Receipts of postal revenue from all sources, for the year ending June 30, 1859 ... $8,695,995 36

Expenses of postal service, as stated ... 8,695,995 36

Total ... $17,391,990 72

This aggregate of $8,695,995 36, deducted from the deficiency on 30th June, leaves a deficit of $1,244,473 20, which the gradual increase of receipts and the curtailments still practicable, would overcome in a few years, and the Department be thus restored to complete independence.

There are those who propose, as a substitute for these just and salutary reforms, an increase of the existing rates of postage. To this, I am well persuaded, the popular judgment is decidedly opposed, and this opposition rests mainly upon the conviction that if the Post-office Department were justly dealt by, it could and would sustain itself without any change in the prevailing rates. This conviction I fully share, and believe that until the experiment of rendering it self-supporting by the measures which have been discussed shall have been made, it would be unwise and unjust to impose any additional burdens on the correspondence of the country. If that experiment, upon being tried, shall fail to restore the Department to independence—which cannot be anticipated—then an enlightened and liberal people will not hesitate to authorize any augmentation of the rates which may be required—but not until then.

This department cannot much longer occupy its present position. If not allowed to return to the principles on which it was conducted in its earlier and better days—the days alike of its independence, its efficiency and its renown—borne down by the pressure of the existing course of legislation, it must ultimately become an established burden on the national revenues. The first step which would probably follow thereafter would be for Congress, in creating and adjusting the principal post routes, to declare what should be the compensation of the contractors. This would open an almost illimitable field for mercenary intrigue and spoliation. An approach to the inauguration of this system has already been made, and the results are before the country. Since 1853, Congress has interposed and made extra allowances to contractors, amounting to $649,161 22 beyond what the department regarded them as entitled to receive under contracts, and beyond what it was believed the postal service demanded or justified. It has also fixed the compensation for the semi-weekly overland mail at $600,000 per annum, though the receipts on the route are but $37,220 94, and for the transportation of the California mail semi-monthly, it paid annually, $730,250, though the same service—less that from San Francisco to Astoria and San Diego—under a recent contract with the department, is now performed at the rate of $331,000 per annum, with an arrangement for its further reduction. These are fair illustrations of the fruits which naturally, if not inevitably, follow from transferring the Contract Bureau of this department to the Halls of Congress. Should this step be taken, the department being thus completely dependent and sustained by an exhaustless treasury, and having no longer the powerful motive to economy which has ever been the conservative element of its being, would be tempted to plunge deeper and deeper into schemes of extravagance and waste, until it may be well apprehended all the safeguards of its purity would finally disappear. With its army of postmasters and contractors, now numbering 36,000 and constantly increasing; with its vast train of other dependent instrumentalities; with its *twenty millions of disbursements—for they will soon reach and surpass* that sum—and with its ramifications extending to every city and village and neighborhood in the Union, it could not fail to be seized upon by ambitious hands, and wielded for political power, until the very air of its being might become an atmosphere of political corruption. The gigantic system of internal improvements by the General Government, which a few years since was overthrown by the voice of the American people, in the omnipresence of its complete development, could scarcely have proved a more potent instrument for exhausting the treasury and depraving the public morals.

The Post-office Department, in its ceaseless labors, pervades every channel of commerce, and every theatre of human enterprise, and while visiting, as it does kindly, every fireside, mingles with the throbbings of almost every heart in the land. In the amplitude of its beneficence, it ministers to all climes and creeds, and pursuits, with the same eager readiness, and with equal fullness of fidelity. It is the delicate ear tromp, through which alike nations and families and isolated individuals, whisper their joys and their sorrows, their convictions and their sympathies, to all who listen for their coming. Naturally enough, such an institution has ever been and still is a cherished favorite with the American people. The country has constantly manifested the most intense solicitude for the preservation of its purity and the prosperity of its administration, and it cannot now be disguised that the guilty abuse of ministrations, and the reckless waste of its hard earned revenues, connected with the humiliations to which it has in consequence been exposed, have deeply and sadly impressed the public mind.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. HOLT.

To THE PRESIDENT.

THE NAVY.

Report of Secretary Toucey.

Secretary TOUCEY's report opens with a *resumé* of the results of the Paraguay Expedition. The Expedition consisted of nineteen vessels, carrying 200 guns and 2,500 men, and its expenses were defrayed out of the ordinary appropriations for the naval service, except the sum of $260,000 appropriated by Congress to pay for the charter or purchase of seven light-draught vessels. The sums due for the use of them amounted to $137,683, and the balance, $151,307, was paid on their becoming the property of the Government. Five of them are now employed on the coasts of Africa and Cuba, one in the La Plata, and the seventh plies as a tender between the Washington and Gosport Navy Yards. The Secretary proceeds to state the purchase of these steamers enabled the Department to adopt more efficient measures for the suppression of the African Slave-trade. Their light draught enables them to enter the harbors and rivers where the slave traffic originates. Eight steamers have been detailed to suppress this trade, four to cruise on the coast of Guinea, and an equal number on the coast of Cuba—two on each side of the island. It is intended to employ another steamer to cruise between New-Orleans, Mobile, Pensacola and Key West, for that and other purposes. The African squadron now consists of three sloops-of-war and four steamers. To enable it to be constantly in the neighborhood of places where the traffic is carried on, the depôt of naval supplies has been removed from Porto Praya to St. Paul de Loando. On this subject, the report further says:

"This constant presence of a squadron of steam vessels on the coast of Africa, and a similar provision on the coast of Cuba, will render the slave trade so dangerous for American vessels that few will be willing to embark in it. What the effect of breaking up the trade will be upon the United States or Cuba it is not necessary to inquire; certainly, under the laws of Congress and our treaty obligations it is the duty of the Executive Government to see that our citizens shall not be engaged in it, and that our flag shall not be used for its purposes."

Since the commencement of the present Administration, ninety steam vessels have been added to the Navy. The seven steam screw sloops-of-war—*Mohican, Narragansett, Iroquois, Wyoming, Pawnee, Dacotah* and *Seminole*—have been launched, and are all in commission, except the three last named. The *Lancaster* and *Hartford* are respectively the flag-ships of the Pacific and East India squadrons. The *Pensacola* and *Richmond* are ready for their machinery. The *Pensacola* and the *Seminole* have been built at the navy-yard in Florida, and are the first ships of war constructed there. Satisfaction is expressed with their construction. The building of the *Saginaw* on the Pacific side, at the Mare Island navy-yard in California, is cited as a proof of the competency of the Government to meet the demands of the Navy, both for construction and repair, in the Pacific Ocean, without doubling Cape Horn. The Secretary argues that we can construct and maintain a Pacific squadron from the timber and other resources of California and Oregon, with but little aid from the Atlantic side. Notwithstanding this increase of the Navy, the Secretary renews his recommendation of last year for a still further increase. The cost of the twenty steam vessels already added, has been less than $5,000,000, while the sum retained in the Treasury by the policy of the retrenchment of Naval expenditure is more than $3,000,000. If Congress continue this policy during this next fiscal year, there will be retained in the Treasury a million and a-half or two millions more. The Treasury, therefore, will be nearly or quite indemnified for the cost of the twenty vessels already built or purchased, by a corresponding retrenchment of naval expenditure. The Secretary further argues, independently of financial considerations, that the protection of the coasting trade on the Atlantic and Pacific, of five millions of commercial tonnage, six hundred millions of foreign exports and imports, and of American citizens and interests in all parts of the world, imperatively requires a more efficient and powerful naval force than we now have at command. He suggests that the old style of vessels be discarded, and that a much larger number of steamships be added to the Navy; and adds that "it is a source of extreme regret and mortification that we are now at times obliged to sit by passively and see in some foreign countries citizens of the United States imprisoned, plundered, and murdered, because the Executive has not the means to protect or redress them."

The gradual increase of the Navy has occasioned a corresponding enlargement of its marine, medical and pursers' departments. The recommendations of a former report, in relation to these branches of the service, are renewed, and the necessity of an increase is urged. The Naval Academy is prosperous; 20 acting midshipmen graduated in June; 123 have since been permitted to be examined for admission, and of these, 66 were found qualified and admitted. In order to practice additional facilities, the new members of the fourth class of acting midshipmen have been transferred to the sloop-of-war *Plymouth*; a measure which is regarded as a decided improvement—subjecting the pupils to stricter discipline. At the close of the last academic year, there were but 197 midshipmen in the Navy—a deficiency which the Secretary laments. The want has been partially supplied by rating enlisted seamen and landsmen as master's mates, to the number of about 160, at an annual expense of more than $60,000, to perform the proper duties of midshipmen. The absolute necessity of an improvement in this particular is earnestly urged. The Board or Naval Officers, appointed to witness the examinations, has made a favorable report of the general management of the Academy.

Six squadrons have been on duty during the year, viz., the Home, Pacific, Brazil, Mediterranean, East Indian and African. The Home Squadron has consisted of thirteen vessels, under Commodore MCCLUNEY; the Pacific Squadron of nine vessels, under Com. LEAS and MORGAN; the Brazil Squadron of six vessels, under the successive command of Com. FRANKLIN, SANDFORD and SANDS; the Mediterranean, of two vessels, under Com. LAVALETTE; the East India, of four, under Com. TATTNALL; the African, of nine, under Com. CONOVER. The report gives a detailed account of the movements of the squadrons, and allusion to the affair of the steamer *Washington*, and H. B. M. frigate *Valorous* at San Juan, as follows:

"On the 20th of November, 1858, Flag-Officer MCKEEVER arrived at San Juan de Nicaragua in the steam-frigate *Roanoke*. Learning that two officers from the British steam-frigate *Valorous*, then lying in that port, had a few days before visited the steamer *Washington*, on her arrival there with passengers bound to California, and while on board of her closely questioned her commander, he opened a correspondence with the senior British officer present, requesting an explanation. It was given in a frank and candid manner. The visit was avowed to be one of friendly inquiry, usually made by ships-of-war when vessels enter a port where they are lying, and not an attempt to search for, or to exercise any right of search, against which this Government, a few months previous, had taken decisive measures. The explanation was satisfactory to Flag-Officer MCKEEVER, whose course on this occasion was regarded as prompt and judicious, and received the warm approval of the department.

Discretionary powers have been given to Flag-officer TATTNALL, on being relieved by his successor, to return home with the *Pocahontas* by way of Japan, and, if the Japanese Commissioners are ready to embark for the United States, to give them a passage to Panama. The vessels of the African squadron have captured three slavers on the African coast—viz.: the *Orion, Ardennes* and *Emily*; all of which were brought into the port of New-York. The survey and exploration of the Parana and the tributaries of the Paraguay River, suspended during the difficulties with Paraguay, have been resumed by Com. PAGE, who reports that he has received valuable assistance from the Brazilian Government. The explorations of Lieut. BROOKS, in the *Fenimore Cooper*, among the islands of the Pacific, have been attended with satisfactory results. The surveys made by Lieut. BROOKS, at Cornwallis Island, will enable vessels to approach it safely to ship guano. The surveys next to be undertaken will be made among the islands south of Japan, and along the Japanese coast. The Chiriqui contract, made on the 1st of May last, is detailed in the report. This contract was made conditionally with the Chiriqui Improvement Company, in order to secure the following advantages: a right of way through the Province of Chiriqui, from the Caribbean Sea to the Pacific, for a period of sixty years; a grant of five thousand acres of land on each side of the Isthmus for naval stations and depôts; the right to use as harbors the gulf and bays surrounded by the lands of the Company, and the right to all the coal found in the region, subject only to the tax of one dime per ton, and the cost of mining and delivery. In compensation for these privileges, the department contracts to pay the Company the sum of $300,000, conditional upon the ratification of the contract by Congress; otherwise, the contract to be void. The Secretary dilates upon the importance of executing this contract; claiming that the value of the privileges to be so extended cannot be too highly appreciated, and arguing that great benefits to the naval service would ensue therefrom.

No appropriation having been made for improvements in the *Navy-yards*, the public works of that description have been suspended, and no estimates are presented for their continuance during the next fiscal year. A thorough examination of the Atlantic *Navy-yards* has been made, and instructions have *been issued for the establishment of a uniform system* of organization and management, adapted to insure economy, efficiency and responsibility. An appropriation for the purchase of a sufficient supply of saltpetre is recommended; also, the employment of a larger force in the Naval Observatory, and aid for the Nautical Almanac.

The report concludes with a statement of the appropriations and expenditures of the year, and the estimates for 1860–61, as follows:

For the support of the navy and marine corps and all other objects under the control of the Navy Department, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1859, the estimates were $13,508,312 77; appropriations, $14,240,347 27; expenditures, $13,870,864 76.

For the fiscal year ending June 30, 1860, the estimates were $14,616,298 23; appropriations, $14,009,564 23; expenditures, $14,659,267 76.

ESTIMATES FOR 1860–61.

For the fiscal year ending June 30, 1860, the estimates were $13,500,370 68; appropriation, $10,464,769 55.

The estimates for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1861, are $11,244,845 63: that is to say, for the navy proper, $9,977,115 58; for the marine corps, $699,736 05; and for all other objects, $567,994.

THE ARMY.

Report of Secretary Floyd.

WAR DEPARTMENT, Dec. 1, 1859.

SIR: The authorized strength of the army is 16,165 men, all told. On the 1st of July, the date of the last complete returns, the actual number reached 17,498. Of this number there are not more than about 11,000 men available for active service in the field. This little force has been engaged, with its usual activity and efficiency, since the date of my last report, in the discharge of its arduous and multifarious duties, being required to man 120 permanent garrisons, posts, and camps, scattered over an area of three millions of square miles. Under these circumstances it has been obviously impossible to give that ample and perfect protection to our whole frontier which our citizens have a right to expect, and which it is the duty of Government to afford. Indian depredations have been committed on our southern and Mexican border, which as yet have been unchastised for the want of men. I hope to make such an alteration in the disposition of the troops next season a will prevent any repetition of these outrages in future on that frontier.

It has been truly said that to call ours a peace establishment is a mere abuse of terms. All the incidents pertaining to an active war establishment characterize our service throughout the year, excepting only the casualties upon the battle-field; and these, in our service, are far from being few or insignificant. The sudden calls to which our troops are constantly liable, the length of marches to be made, the amount of real and severe fatigue, privation and hardship to be endured by them, are not exceeded in any service, nor at all equaled on any peace establishment whatever. The cheerfulness, alacrity and efficiency with which they have performed their duties, entitle them to the commendation of the country. The positions held by our troops at the date of my last report are, in the main, those they still occupy, being the best to secure the peace of our Territories, and to give protection to our frontiers and the overland routes to the Pacific. The papers communicated with this report will show, somewhat in detail, the movements of the troops and the results of them.

The war which last year was going on with the Comanches and Kiowas is still unfinished, but the theatre of it is extended from the western part of our Texan boundary to the region lying towards the headwaters of the Arkansas and Canadian rivers. Proper measures have been taken to subdue those tribes, and to give perfect protection to the routes from Missouri and Arkansas to New-Mexico.

In connection with the subject of frontier defence, I venture to submit a plan which, if approved by Congress, will, I am confident, be productive of great ultimate good to the country and an essential saving to the treasury. It is to allow by law the enlistment of men for the mounted corps, whose term of service shall continue for the period of six months, beginning in May. These men should be required to furnish their own horses, for which a liberal per diem compensation ought to be allowed to them, but no remuneration for loss or damage unless the commanding officer should certify that the horse had been actually killed or rendered useless by injury in battle. These six months' recruits should compose one-half of the mounted regiments, and, if necessary, that number of the present force should be disbanded to make room for them. They would be composed of the best young men of the frontier, many of whom would gladly enter the service for that length of time, but would never think of enlisting for the term of five years. It is no objection to say that six months would be too short a time to make disciplined troops of these men. They would all be skillful riders and dexterous in the use of fire-arms—soldierly accomplishments which it takes years to teach, inadequately, to many of our mounted men. As they would go at once into the field, they would need little beyond a knowledge of routine necessary in camp life, for they would be already fitted for spy or scout duty, so essential in Indian warfare. In actual battle with the Indians, success is more owing to individual prowess, skill in arms and horsemanship, than to discipline.

After a few years, this system would supply the frontiers with a very large number of settlers sufficiently instructed and disciplined to give them confidence and self-reliance, whose personal knowledge of the country and the haunts of the savages would render them fully capable of either defence or attack. In point of economy, great advantages would accrue to the country. It would save all expense for the forage of half the number of horses belonging to the mounted service; it would save the pay, clothing, subsistence, fuel and quarters of the same number of men for half the year, and during the most expensive part of it, the Winter; and whilst giving a fresh supply of good horses every year, would cost the Government nothing for them. To prevent any miscarriage of the plan, it might be introduced gradually, and in such manner as not to impair the efficiency of the service or to endanger the security of the frontiers.

The Texan and New-Mexican people would, beyond doubt, gladly embrace such an opportunity to enter the service, than whom no better troops for such service could be found. This system would save considerable sums in the hire of spies and guides, nearly all of whom are now taken from this class of men.

I again bring to your notice, and urge upon your special attention, the recommendation which I have heretofore made on the subject of the staff corps. Longer experience convinces me more and more of the beneficial effects to the military service which would result from the adoption of these recommendations.

I venture again to call your attention to the urgent necessity for an additional Inspector-General. Our territory is too large for the duties of inspection to be performed by the present officers, and the duties are far too important to be neglected.

RETIRED LIST.

There is another measure for increasing the efficiency of the Army, which was recommended by my predecessor. I fully concur in it, and recommended it in my annual reports. This is a provision for retiring disabled and infirm officers. Separate bills for effecting this object, identical in language, were reported from the respective Military Committees of both Houses of Congress at the last session. The provisions of these bills meet my entire concurrence. They secure to every officer a fair and open examination of his case, with the privilege of adducing testimony to be put on record and submitted to the examination of the President, who must concur in its sufficiency to establish disability for active service before the officer can be retired. This amendment will benefit the public service, and at the same time makes fair provision for officers who may have been worn out in the service, whilst it will carefully guard the rights of all who may be subjected by its operations, and exclude the influence of favorites or prejudice. The many objections which have been urged against a similar measure for the naval service, and which are due not to the measure itself, but to the manner in which it was executed, are entirely corrected by the proposed mode of applying the retiring system to the Army. I again bring this subject to special notice, and repeat my former recommendations in its favor.

ENLISTED TEAMSTERS.

The importance of a regularly enlisted corps of teamsters has been so long and so often brought to the notice of Congress, that nothing but a deep conviction of its almost absolute necessity induces me to refer to it again. For the want of that authority which enlistment will give, most serious delays have often occurred in starting important trains for the use of the army; and the exigencies of the service, caused by bad faith in performing engagements, have been seized upon by teamsters to exact exorbitant wages from the Government.

The experiments thus far made (and they are pretty full) demonstrate that camels constitute a most useful and economical means of transportation for men and supplies, through the great deserts and barren regions of our interior. A camel will go safely with its burden over ground so rough and precipitous that a mule will scarcely pass over it unladen without assistance. They require no forage but what they gather in the most sterile and barren parts of our continent, and for many days together live conveniently without water. An abundant supply of these animals would, beyond all doubt, enable our army to give greater and prompter protection to our frontiers, and to all our inter-oceanic routes, than three times their cost expended in any other way. As a measure of economy and efficiency, I cannot too strongly recommend the purchase of a full supply to the favorable consideration of Congress.

The report of the surgeon general contains important suggestions for the good of the service. The increase of the medical staff recommended by him has become a necessity, and requires the action of Congress.

The coffee ration of the army is fixed by law, and cannot be altered by any regulation. It is manifestly too small, and ought to be increased. The good of the service requires that the supply of coffee for the army should be put on the same footing with all other rations, and be left to the experience of the service to fix the quantity. I herewith transmit a communication from a surgeon of the army upon this subject, whose recommendations are concurred in by Brevet Major-General TWIGGS.

The reports of Colonel DELAFIELD and Major MORDECAI, of their observations on the military systems of Europe, were submitted to Congress last Session. They contain information of great value to the army and the country, and deserve to be printed without delay.

The efficiency of our artillery has at all times been an object of solicitude to those who have considered its importance. The arm is one for which both study and experience are particularly necessary. Our military establishment is so small that every corps in the army is mainly employed in active service of a general description, and all attention by the troops to any special branch of military science has to be made secondary and incidental. I have endeavored to mitigate the evils of this system so far as the artillery is concerned by prescribing and creating facilities for an habitual discipline in the service of that arm. The corps has been divided into two classes, one to garrison the more important permanent fortifications, where they can have the means of practice in heavy artillery, and the other to occupy posts where troops are required, as on the Indian frontier. Each of the latter has a light company and battery, which are designed to be the means of instruction to the other companies in that branch of the service. A system of theoretical and practical instruction has been prescribed for every artillery post, and by a periodical exchange of companies between the fortifications and field artillery posts, each company will have an opportunity of instruction and experience in all branches of the arm, and at the same time share the hardships of actual service. The proportions in which the two classes should be arranged, and the selection of stations, are questions to be determined according to the exigencies of the service, and may vary from time to time. To companies, excepting those which are mounted, preserve the infantry armament and discipline as heretofore, and are liable to duty in that capacity whenever required.

MILITARY SIGNALS.

Assistant-Surgeon ALBERT J. MYER, of the medical corps of the Army, having submitted to this Department a system of military signals for the purpose of communicating intelligence or orders between distant points on land, a board was convened in March last to examine into its merits. The Board reported favorably to the adoption of this plan for the uses of the Army. A series of experiments with the field-signals, instituted under special instructions from this Department, have developed results which promise to be of value to the service. With an equipment simple, strong, weighing but sixteen pounds, and so compact as to be rapidly carried from place to place by a soldier mounted or on foot, which requires for its use but a single man, communication has been kept up and messages transmitted by day and at night, a distance of fifteen miles. Messages have been sent five miles without any apparatus especially provided for the purpose.

For the distances at which communication by signals would be needed for military uses, the plan proposed appears to be ready and reliable. The trials in progress give reason to believe that by the use of such signals there may be secured to the service a mode of communication more easy, safe, and available than any hitherto known. The advantage to accrue to an army from a practicable system of telegraphing do not require comment.

The benefits which the army and the country are daily deriving from the Military Academy render it unnecessary for me to commend it to the cheerful support of Congress. The adoption of a five instead of the four years' term, which was done by my predecessor, has afforded the means of improving the course of studies, and introducing somewhat more of practical instruction than was previously possible, though greatly needed. Some slight modification in the programme of instruction is perhaps needed, so as not to crowd the course too much, and to adjust the different studies in accordance with their relative importance. I am giving attention to that matter now. The subjects of strategy, grand tactics, military organization, and administration, &c., I have thought it particularly desirable to give more importance to, and have taken steps for that object.

EXPENDITURES OF THE DEPARTMENT.

The circumstances connected with the expenditures of the War Department for the present fiscal year have been anomalous, and not free from considerable embarrassment. Until this year, Congress has scarcely ever failed to grant the appropriations asked for by the department, and whilst the country was prosperous, and large sums were received at the treasury, these appropriations were on a liberal and extensive scale.

The estimates for this fiscal year were prepared for the last Congress with the greatest scrutiny and care; large reductions were made in many items of expenditure, and, indeed, all was reduced to the lowest point to which it was thought safe, to go, so as to keep the Army upon the footing where it had been placed, and to avoid a deficiency bill, asking for money to defray expenses necessarily incurred beyond the sums appropriated by Congress. This reduced scale of expenditure Congress seemed to think was still greater than the public service required, and an arbitrary reduction of very nearly two millions of dollars was made upon the estimates submitted. From the date of this appropriation until the commencement of the fiscal year, when this reduced scale of expenditure should begin, was so short a time that it involved much difficulty in preparing for it over so wide a space of territory as our army occupied. An essential change in the movement and economy of the army became absolutely necessary, to conform to the policy of Congress, and to avoid a deficiency. The usual expenditures upon barracks and quarters for the troops were greatly diminished, the civil employes in the service were almost entirely dispensed with, and large reductions were made in the expenditure for forage and keep of the animals of the Army, by selling at public auction, after due advertisement in the newspapers, such as were not absolutely essential for the use of the Army.

I have conformed the estimates for the ensuing year to the standard of the last Congressional appropriations, and have, therefore, reduced them very nearly two millions of dollars below those submitted last year, and half a million below the actual appropriations made at the last session of Congress.

In the year 1850, Congress increased the numerical strength of the army by adding to it four regiments, two of which were cavalry. In the year 1847, the pay of the army was increased about thirty per cent. From the two causes the necessary expenditures for the army were largely augmented. This increase arose from a necessity that still continues and was decreed by Congress itself. In addition to these reasons for larger army expenses, the rise in the price of every article of consumption required for its support has also tended to swell the aggregate sum for the maintenance of our army. Neither the strength of the army nor the expenditures for its support and operations have been enlarged in proportion to the growth of the population, the extension of the frontiers requiring defence, or the cost of most articles of military supplies.

To arrive at proper conclusions on this question of expenditures, they must be compared with the service rendered; and, in this view, a comparison with any previous time may be confidently challenged. The present army has work to do which might employ, usefully and actively, five times its numerical force; it does that work effectively, and at a cost certainly not incommensurate with its value and benefit to the country. The whole cost of the army proper, for its entire support and maintenance, reaches the sum of ($13,098,725 72) thirteen millions ninety-eight thousand seven hundred and twenty-five dollars and seventy-two cents. With the help of such legislation as is asked for, the above sum would be materially reduced.

Large sums are necessarily and unavoidably expended every year for objects it is impossible to foresee or estimate for. During the past year the extra expenses incurred for the suppression of Indian hostilities in Washington and Oregon amounted to two hundred and ninety-eight thousand, five hundred and thirty-nine dollars and eleven cents beyond what would have occurred but for these wars. Heavy expenses are likewise incurred for escorts to parties engaged in service not pertaining to the legitimate duties of the army. These sums amounted last year to over seventy thousand dollars; so it will be seen that the expenditure of over three hundred and seventy thousand dollars was imposed upon the War Department for these objects which could not be foreseen.

ORDNANCE, ARMS AND EQUIPMENTS.

I have ordered the estimates from the Bureau of Ordnance to be made mainly in conformity to the policy which the action of the last Congress seemed to indicate by its appropriations. I cannot forbear to express the opinion, however, that to abridge the manufacture of arms is, to say the least, a singular and very doubtful economy, and may prove in the end to be both dangerous and expensive. A change which would create the immediate demand for an immense number of arms (nearly enough, hereby, to arm all our armories and to require the purchase of further supplies from private manufacturers), at whose mercy the Government would be in the emergencies of war.

Besides the manufacture of arms, other expenses are necessarily incurred in experiments and improvements in those which are of the greatest importance to the service of the country. That constant progress in the improvement of arms and other appliances of warfare which has of late characterized the military service of other nations, has been, as to this, as to them, active in ours. The experiments which have been in progress for some time past, to ascertain the fitness of iron for the construction of gun-carriages for sea-coast and garrison cannon, have resulted in complete success. They demonstrate the practicability of using iron in place of wood for the fabrication of such carriages, not only to very great advantage in point of economy, but also in quality. The ultimate saving in money to the country by this manufacture can hardly be estimated. Gun-carriages heretofore have not only been expensive, but it has been found impossible to preserve the wood of which they were constructed from decay. So that each gun in all our forts must be remounted once every ten years to be fit for service. The substitution of iron for wood has remedied this perfectly, and the gun-carriage may now be considered as indestructible. Models of wrought iron sea-coast and garrison carriages have accordingly been adopted, and iron will be used in their fabrication hereafter.

Improvement has been introduced, also, in the forms of cannon, greatly increasing their endurance under repeated discharges, and rendering them consequently more reliable for service. In view of the great importance of the best method of distributing the due weight of metal throughout the different parts of the cannon, so as to obtain the greatest strength, To secure effectually the best material and mode of fabrication will require the establishment of a national foundry, and I again urge this important measure, and repeat the recommendation, so often heretofore made, for the requisite legislation to effect it.

The subject of rifled cannon and projection has received much attention, and careful experiments have been instituted to test a variety of such contrivances. It is not deemed advisable to proceed to the manufacture of such cannon, beyond those required for experimental purposes, until full and fair trials shall have demonstrated, practically, whether of the various inventions possesses most advantages, or whether a combination of the advantages peculiar to several of them may not furnish the best *Gargeon* at model.

New patterns of horse equipments for all the mounted troops have been adopted, and their manufacture has been commenced to the extent permitted by the appropriation applicable thereto. It is, however, insufficient to meet the wants of the service in this respect, in consequence of its reduction below the estimate. The new pattern was adopted after careful consideration of the views upon the subject, of experienced officers of the mounted service, taken in connection with the question of the greatest economy compatible with fitness for that service.

The operations at the national armories and the arsenals, in the manufacture of small arms and other supplies pertaining to this branch of the War Department, are stated in detail in the accompanying report of the colonel of ordnance.

I desire to call attention to the existing law for arming and equipping the whole body of the militia of the United States, which was passed in 1808. The provision then made for the purpose remains the same to this day, and is sufficient for its original accomplishment. This is evinced by frequent requisitions and urgent applications from State and Territories for advances of arms and equipments beyond their regular quotas.

BREECH-LOADING ARMS.

Under the appropriations heretofore made by Congress to encourage experiments in breech-loading arms, very important results have been arrived at. The ingenuity and invention displayed upon the subject are truly surprising, and it is risking little to say that the arm has been nearly, if not entirely perfected by several of these plans. These arms commend themselves very strongly for their great range and accuracy of fire at long distances; for the rapidity with which they can be fired, and their exemption from injury by exposure to long continued rains. With the best breech-loading arm, one skillful man would be equal to two, probably three, armed with the ordinary muzzle-loading gun. True polic